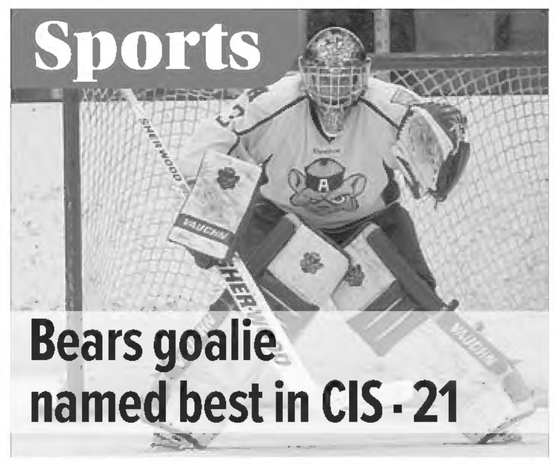
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THE gateway

THE OFFICIAL STUDENT NEWSPAPER AT THE UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA

Feature



The Gateway's frugal fashionistas delve into the bargain bins for a thrifting adventure - page 14

PROVINCIAL **BUDGET**

BoG peeved with mandate

April Hudson
NEWS EDITOR ▪ @APRIL_HUDSON

Two weeks after the release of a provincial budget that shocked Alberta's post-secondary education system, the Ministry of Enterprise and Advanced Education has released letters of expectation to the province's 26 institutions.

Originally called "mandate letters," the letters of expectation include general guidelines for post-secondary institutions as well as some specific requests, many of which are designed to bring Alberta's institutions closer together under the umbrella of a Campus Alberta brand.

For the University of Alberta, facing a 7.2 per cent cut to its operating grant, some of these requests include a focus on sustainability in response to the Alberta Budget 2013, active promotion of the Campus Alberta brand and logo and a 10 per cent increase in the development of "seamless learner pathways," which include transfer agreements, dual credit and support for the mobility and success of students.

"For any increase, you need to have a baseline and you need to know exactly what you're measuring ... what (you) mean by 'seamless mobility of students,' for example," said the U of A's Acting Provost and Vice-President (Academic) Martin Ferguson-Pell during a press conference Monday afternoon.

"We do need more time to look at this carefully — and most importantly, we need to consult with our colleagues across campus."

The letter also requires a reduction in administrative costs and program duplication across Campus Alberta institutions and action to increase access for what the letter refers to as "learners."

But Ferguson-Pell contends that access is more easily talked about than achieved, and is limited more by program space than other barriers — a factor further limited by decreased funding.

"Even students at the U of A in Science, who wish to transfer into Engineering, for example, struggle to do that even with very high GPAs, just because of the available number of slots," Ferguson-Pell said.

Twelve members of the Board of Governors, including board chair Doug Goss, signed a letter to Alberta Premier Alison Redford and the general public Monday detailing some of the concerns they have with the funding cuts and letter of expectation the U of A received.

Noting the contribution the U of A makes to Alberta's economy, the letter adds the Board of Governors is committed to working with the government to make Alberta's post-secondary system as effective as possible, but adds the U of A and other institutions need to emerge stronger than before.

"Being just another "average" university is not something that is part of our vision, nor is it something that we can accept," the letter states.

This, in Goss's opinion, means taking a careful and thoughtful approach to re-modelling and re-investing in Alberta's post-secondary system.

"We want to make sure that we're not making any short-term decisions that imperil the long-term vision of higher education," he said.

"The trick is to make sure we work together to make decisions, both in the short term and the long term, to get us to the right place."

PLEASE SEE **CUTS** ◆ PAGE 5

"Sigh.. budget troubles. Everyone get ready for Three Lines Buck Fifty" #3LF

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THE gateway

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colophon

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Billy-Ray Belcourt, Caitlin Hart, Piper Whelan, Andrea Ross, Jennifer Polack, Chris Gee, Jennifer Robinson, Cameron Lewis, Atta Almasi, Nicola Flynn, Julianna Damer, Annie Pumphrey, Jacquelin Gregoire, Hannah Madsen, Megan Hymanyk, Scott Fenwick, Adrian Lahola-Chomiak, Emilie St. Hilaire, Anthony Goertz, Donna Cave, Heather Richards, Zengben Hao, Tianbo Liu, AmirAli Sharifi, Kevin Schenk, Stefano Jun, Lauren Alston, Harry Du, Kathleen Zenith

U of A lands six top spots for ad competition

Billy-Ray Belcourt
NEWS STAFF • @BILLYRAYB



KEVIN SCHENK

U of A students are putting their marketing knowledge to the test as they prepare to pitch advertisement solutions to major industry moguls in Toronto this week.

Six Business students are part of three teams advancing to the top ten in Canada's Next Top Ad Exec — a nation-wide marketing competition showcasing the talent of advertising enthusiasts throughout Canadian universities.

After advancing through two highly-contested stages against 200 other students, the remaining 10 contestants will be pitted against each other before a panel of 20 judges, comprised of corporate executives from GM and Canadian Tire. Up for grabs are three internships with Chevrolet, $7,000 in scholarships and a new 2013 Chevrolet Cruze for each member of the winning team.

Christopher Lui, Glendon Taylor, Edward Manoli, Alan Hu, Dan Park and Kate Farlinger will utilize their marketing smarts and creative juices in hope of bringing a first-place win back to the U of A at the end of March.

Lui and Taylor, both in an MBA program, said they were grateful to have made it so far in the competition, and are excited to participate in a real-world setting outside the classroom.

"I think when you're working on papers and (other) things, everything just doesn't feel real. Everything's just words on a piece of paper, and now we actually get to go sell our idea. I think that's really the most rewarding thing," Lui said.

"Usually in a class project, the clients are not live; you don't have people giving you feedback. (For this competition), we've had people giving us feedback at each stage, so that was important in terms of refining. (We're) working with real people, and people that want to listen to our ideas."

Despite the pressures of presenting in front of a large panel of esteemed industry executives, Taylor said he's certain the education and confidence they've gained from their studies at the U of A will set their team apart.

"I figured at some point I'd get nervous, (or) get a little bit uneasy about it ... (but) it just comes back to what our MBA program has molded us into," he said.

"In terms of differentiation from other groups, that's where we differ because that's what the MBA program is known for: strong analysis, strong background research (and) making sure we have strong recommendations."

Taylor added taking part in this competition has further ignited his and Lui's interest in a post-graduation marketing job.

"The fact that we were picked out of this large group shows us that ... someone thinks we have the knowledge to be an effective marketer, at least in the automotive industry," he said.

"It makes those positions in marketing and the whole entire marketing sector a little more realistic than (if we hadn't) participated or made the top 10."

Based on their experiences, Lui and Taylor said any student, Business or otherwise, planning to enter a competition as part of their program should embrace the opportunity with enthusiasm and preparedness.

"Students should step outside of their comfort zone. That's why we're here in university. You're here to expand, you're here to meet new people (and) experience new things," Lui said.

"Just putting yourself out there. You're not always going to be successful; you might fail and stumble, but that's where you learn."

streeters

COMPILED AND PHOTOGRAPHED BY **Andrea Ross + Kevin Schenk**

As you're probably aware, Easter is right around the corner.

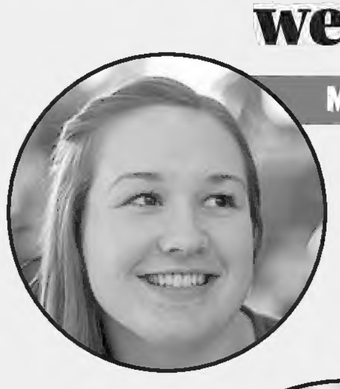
WE ASKED...

What will you be doing for the four-day Easter long weekend?



Mim Fatmi MEDICINE I

"I'm shadowing a physician at a hospital, then I'm going to a friend's house for a girls' night and then I have a wedding to go to. I guess that's not a boring weekend at all! You got me on a good week."



Michelle Holland EDUCATION IV

"I'm going to have dinner with my family and probably sleep in and relax. I also need to get some homework done. Oh, and I'm going to the Oilers game on Saturday — going to have some of those Rexall beers."



Nathaniel de Ruiter ENGINEERING II

"Probably trying to prepare for exams and catch up on everything I'm behind in. I don't have anything fun planned, but I'm sure I'll find something."



Rodrigo Campos GRAD STUDIES I

"I'll be here, studying and reading, just working the whole weekend. Is there an option to go out, at this point in the semester?"

gateway

Student-at-Large Board Member

The Gateway Student Journalism Society requires a Student-At-Large from the university community to serve on the Board of Directors of the paper for the term from May 1, 2013 to April 30, 2014.

Application deadline: April 17th, 2013

Applicants should submit 400 words max to Gateway Business Manager:
Ashleigh Brown • (780) 492-6669
biz@gateway.ualberta.ca

Applicants:

- must be U of A students
- must not be members of Students'Council, General Faculties Council, the U of A Board of Governors, or the Senate of the U of A
- must not be current Gateway volunteers

If you are interested, please submit a brief note (no more than 400 words) on why you'd be a good candidate for the position. Please outline previous volunteer experience and not-for-profit organization experience if applicable (though not necessary).

LGBTQ supporters break silence

Billy-Ray Belcourt
NEWS STAFF ▪ @BILLYRAYB



TIANBO LIU

"I remember it like it was yesterday — the day my father found out that I was gay," said Mickey Wilson, director of Edmonton's Pride Centre.

"I was 14, and I was homeless because I was queer."

The University of Alberta's first institutionally-endorsed Pride Week came to an emotional and thought-provoking close for many participants Friday afternoon when students, staff and community members gathered in SUB's Alumni Room to "break the silence."

The event included speeches from Wilson, Alberta's Green Party leader Janet Keeping, Students' Union Vice-President (Academic) Dustin Chelen, SU VP (Student Life) Saadiq Sumar, Safewalk director Evan Worman, OUTreach co-chair Linh Lu and Pride Week Event Coordinator Kalyna Horocholyn.

The National Day of Silence, which took place March 22, is considered a day of action where participants vow not to speak, in order to call attention to the silencing effects of LBGTQ discrimination and bullying in schools.

According to the 2009 Canadian Climate Survey on Homophobia, 73 per cent of LGBTQ students reported they felt unsafe while at school, and 59 per cent reported they were verbally harassed for their sexual orientation.

Wilson said despite the ground that's been broken by the Gay Rights Movement, harassment and prejudice is still encountered by many LGBTQ people. However, he said he was grateful events such as Break the Silence promote acceptance for those struggling with their sexuality.

"I want to thank the courageous people ... who chose to be silent, because in doing so, you make a statement for each one of use who are gay, lesbian, bisexual, trans(gender), two-spirit, queer or straight," he said.

"It's a profound statement for so many people who can't speak, both here and around the globe, because of who they are or who they love."

Encountering his own battles with discrimination and verbal abuse, Wilson emphasized the importance of ridding any notions of hate and instead filling the silence caused by LGBTQ stigmatization with love and acceptance.

"Every time we speak out, a life can be changed, and that's why (an) event (like Break the Silence) is so critical," he said.

In order to further this cause, speaker Janet Keeping the Alberta government also needs to make meaningful attempts to safeguard LGBTQ rights.

"Respect for human rights, nurturing a culture that's respectful of human rights and is committed to treating everybody with dignity and respect is not just a legal matter. It's not just a matter of government or public policy; it's about changing attitudes, it's about changing cultures (and) it's about changing society one person at a time," she said.

"There has not been that kind of commitment at the government level to help Albertans get over discrimination and to protect all our rights to be free from discrimination."

Pride Week event coordinator Kalyna Horocholyn said many LGBTQ people have a difficult time expressing their sexuality while attempting to find a positive outlet for comfort and reassurance — a struggle she said can be ignored by the larger community, which Pride Week was determined to address.

"Our stories, our representation, our visibility is not really seen much in popular culture, in the media, in events around campus and around the city, so it's important for us to be able to share our stories in positive, uplifting and safe environments," she said.

"(Pride Week) allows us to come together as a community and raise our voices collectively with a sense of family and solidarity. We can support each other knowing that we can (share) these stories and that we can learn from each other and that we can grow together."

Classics conference explores historic margins

Katelyn Hoffart
STAFF REPORTER ▪ @KATELYNHOFFART

From Roman ruins to terra cotta treasures, thought-provoking presentations and discussions brought Classics scholars around the world to the doorstep of the U of A last weekend for the annual 2013 Classical Association of the Canadian West conference.

Hosted this year by the Department of Classics and History, the conference's chosen theme was On the Margins of Antiquity, intended to extend conversations beyond the borders of ancient Rome and Greece.

More than 60 professionals and graduate students came from the United States, Finland, Germany and India to present their work.

"We have been working steadily within Classics, on the one hand to consolidate the core of Classics — because it's very important; we have to be strong — but on the other hand to break down the boundaries," said Steven Hijmans, associate professor of Roman Art and Archaeology and one of the conference organizers.

The conference started Friday with a keynote address from Naman Ahuja, an associate professor from Jawaharlal Nehru University in New Delhi.

Ahuja alluded to ancient Indian terra cotta figurine iconography and delved into parallels found in the Roman world.

He also brought up the issue of the absence of minor antiquities such as figurines in the study of ancient Indian history, which he said has left a gap in understanding ancient culture.

"The way we have come to receive the history of Indian religion, myths (and) historical processes has been governed by the grand statuary — the great temples and therefore elite traditions of India," he said. "Terra cottas might help us slightly in filling in that gap."

> **"These are things which are stuck in between, and yet have a lot to convey."**
>
> NAMAN AHUJA
> ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR, JAWAHARLAL NEHRU UNIVERSITY

He added Indian history has a tendency to be characterized in religious terms as either Buddhist, Hindu or Muslim instead of ancient, medieval and modern, which poses challenges in discovering a collective Indian culture.

Terra cotta figurines, he said, can expand horizons in Indian history by depicting a variety of previously unheard festivals and ceremonies.

"This (terra cotta) material stands on the margins of antiquity in many ways. Neither considered a part of classical statuary; nor a medium that is important enough, without texts to balance its understanding and to tell us who these figurines might be; not part of the great traditions of art in the Greco-Roman world or in the Indic world," he said.

"These are things which are stuck in between, and yet have a lot to convey."

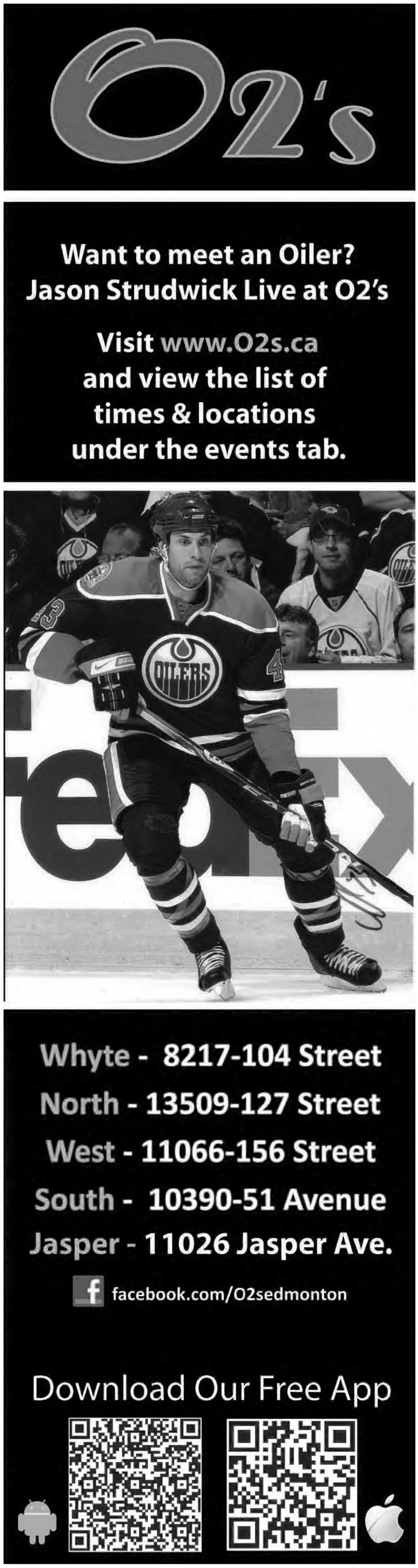
Other talks covered areas such as the development of Roman public bath houses, ancient wedding rituals, cartography and the perception of old age in antiquity.

Professor of Classical Archaeology Jeremy Rossiter was also involved in the planning efforts, and gave much of the credit to department staff, faculty and grad students, who lent a hand with the conference's organization.

As curator of the WG Hardy Museum of Antiquities, Rossiter also took the initiative to set up a new exhibition embracing the Margins of Antiquity theme, displaying artifacts form ancient Britain, Africa and India.

"I think as a forum for professional exchange, (this conference) has been very good," he said.

"The purpose of this conference is to share ongoing research ... (and) anybody involved in research knows that in a way, that is the most rewarding thing, to have an opportunity to share it with other professionals."



Arts Week sparks smARTs talk

Piper Whelan
NEWS STAFF



TIANBO LIU

Last week saw creativity, critical thinking and research connections jump to the forefront of academic endeavours as Arts Week celebrated opportunities to study the arts at the University of Alberta.

As the week's highlight event, the first annual smARTs evening was held Thursday to profile research and work in the humanities, presented by the Collective Body for Arts Students (CBAS).

The Myer Horowitz Theatre played host to a night of short lectures, modeled after TED Talks, from U of A researchers working in varying Faculty of Arts disciplines.

Dean of Arts Lesley Cormack kicked off the evening with a speech on the history of the liberal arts and its importance in a post-secondary setting.

"(Arts) were the studies of free men ... those who were going to understand what it meant to live in a free society," she said, encouraging Arts students to advocate the necessity of studying the arts to become an "imaginative and literate" individual in demand for today's workplaces.

"Society needs those practitioners of the humanities, the social sciences and the fine arts," she said. "The place of Arts in the world today has never been more crucial."

CBAS Events Coordinator Sam Alzaman wanted smARTs to bring a sense of community to students working in the many fields of study that make up the Faculty of Arts, by using the event to share a broad spectrum of research and ideas.

"When I looked at student groups in other faculties, like the Business Students Association, they have such a great sense of community, and I felt like Arts was lacking that. I think it has something to do with the variety: you have philosophy, sociology, anthropology, fine arts — it's such a wide array," he explained.

"The goal (for smARTs) was to try to bring a sense of community and showcase what the arts have to offer, while having a good time."

He added the evening was designed to spark discussion in the audience and inspire them to ask questions and explore different areas of study.

"The ideal goal would be for students to walk away thinking about something different, knowing the arts is more than painting on the wall or doing abstract impressionism. It is research; it is a social science," he said.

"Hopefully there's some good dinner talk that comes out of this."

SmARTs included eight presenters, who discussed topics such as cultural studies, performance, community service-learning and technology — among others.

The event concluded with a lecture from presenter Paul Gill titled Leadership and the Liberal Arts. Gill discussed the connection between studies in Arts and the leadership skills and motivation currently needed in the world, giving suggestions to aspiring leaders in the Faculty of Arts for achieving their dreams beyond post-secondary studies.

"The Alberta private sector wants Arts grads, but they want a specific (one). They want an Arts grad who makes things happen," he said.

CBAS plans to hold smARTs annually as part of Arts Week, hoping to expand its audience and inspire more Arts students to dream and discover.

"This is an opportunity to showcase that this is a social science, to show all the great things the arts are doing and how much more there is to learn," Alzaman said.

"It doesn't take building a new robot or getting petroleum out of the ground to contribute to society; there's so much left to be learned (in the arts)."

Visiting Lectureship speaker advocates student activism

Caitlin Hart
NEWS WRITER

In honour of the University of Alberta's annual Visiting Lectureship in Human Rights, author and gay rights activist Lesléa Newman will visit CCIS Wednesday evening to present her lecture It Takes a Village to Raise an Activist.

Best known for her children's book *Heather Has Two Mommies*, Newman has garnered attention throughout the past two decades for exploring controversial social issues in her writing, such as gender and ethnic identity.

Newman said she was able to create a niche for herself in literature and become an advocate for equality and safety for all groups — a feat which she said will be at the heart of Wednesday's talk.

"Each individual can, and must, make a difference," she said.

"It's important for each of us to leave the world a better place and make a difference in the lives of others. And that's what activism is all about."

Newman said she looks forward to speaking to students and inspiring them to find their own ways to be voices for the unheard.

She believes students are the world's future, and by speaking about the importance of activism and human rights they can be motivated to find their own voices.

"I hope students are inspired to be kind and do something to improve the lives of others," she said.

She added it was her desire to become a major voice for the LGBTQ community that prompted her to tell the stories of those who have influenced her own life.

The lack of literature on gay and lesbian rights was initially what got Newman interested in advocacy of LGBTQ rights. Of particular interest to her was children's literature, which she said presents an opportunity for education to prevent homophobia.

"When I first began to explore the LGBTQ community, I couldn't find any books to read, so I decided to write some," she said.

"As a writer, I think it is very important to be the voice for those who no longer have a voice."

Newman's talk will take place Wednesday, March 27 at 7:30 p.m. in CCIS 1-430.

events listings

2013 Visiting Lectureship in Human Rights
Wednesday, March 27, 7:30 p.m.
CCIS 1-430

Easter Eggstravaganza
Saturday, March 30, 12:30 - 3 p.m.
CCIS

Studio Theatre: Saint Joan
March 28 - April 6
7:30 p.m.
Timms Centre for the Arts





HISTORY HUNTERS Himka and Kononenko are part of a team documenting Prairie history. GRIFF CORNWALL

Photography project preserves Prairie relics, religious history

Andrea Ross
NEWS STAFF ▪ @_ROSSANDREA

Through the inexpensive and permanent nature of photography, a team of researchers from the University of Alberta is trying to breathe new life into Prairie history by documenting more than 1,000 rural Ukrainian and Russian orthodox churches.

Led by history professor John-Paul Himka, historian Frances Swyripa and ethnographer Natalie Kononenko, the project, dubbed Sanctuary, seeks to preserve the spiritual culture of rural orthodox churches across Alberta, Saskatchewan and Manitoba.

Himka first became interested in local church history during a trip to Ukraine, where he noticed many old churches in disrepair, doomed to extinction.

In summer 2007, shortly after his return to Alberta, the St. Dmetro Ukrainian Catholic Church erupted in flames in Hilliard, a town 70 km east of Edmonton. The church was left in ruin, prompting Himka to embark on his photographic documentation of other architectural prairie relics.

"Nothing is preserved in the world; everything changes," he explained. "I saw this change occurring, and I saw the opportunity (to document it). I'm shocked at the amount of photographs and information we have gotten.

"It's like when you climb a mountain: you start, and you go up and up, and at one point you realize you're very high. That's sort of what it is here: you accumulate and accumulate, and next thing you know, you have 85,000 photographs."

So far, Himka's team has captured photos in roughly 600 churches. As more people move away from rural areas towards cities, the Prairie landscape has become dotted with abandoned churches in need of repair — and while these crumbling buildings once served as a place of gathering and fellowship for their respective communities, they have now come to represent a rich religious history.

"There is cultural and religious history, but it feeds into a lot of other things, because these churches were often a focal point of community life," Himka said.

"You learn things about society, local economic history, (through them)."

By interviewing members of the communities and church congregations, Himka and his colleagues have unearthed some complicated issues regarding the support available for these ghost buildings. While money for repairs or renovations is often unavailable, the older generation is struggling to pass caretaking responsibilities on to the younger generation, bringing into question the future existence of these churches.

"We have these churches where one or two old people are the caretakers, and (they're) not sure what they're going to do when they go into extended care. There are valuable things in these churches; churches are closing," Himka said.

"It's a very difficult problem for the bishops to sort out — what to do with these churches, what to do with their contents, what to preserve. It's very expensive to preserve a church. What do you do with a preserved church?

"These churches were built for growth; the (builders) thought these communities would thrive. It's human expectations, but these things don't always come through," he added.

In preserving the churches through photography, Himka's team has documented a vast amount of material, ranging from the unique architecture of the domed ceilings to the ancient relics and skilled artwork surrounding altars and entryways.

For Himka and his colleagues, these humble orthodox churches have been a hidden Prairie treasure, and a valuable testament to Ukrainian and Russian history on the Prairies. As they deteriorate year by year, their legacy will now live on through an extensive, growing database of photos.

"Photographic record is the way I thought was the best to do it. We have something rare here — (the churches) won't be around forever. We have a very simple, cheap and effective method of this kind of preservation," Himka said.

"You have a technology that makes it easy to take hundreds and hundreds of photographs of a church and provides a record that can exist for generations."

Province-issued letters of expectation need clarification, Board of Governors chair says

CUTS ◆ CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Goss noted his fellow signers don't work for the U of A, aren't paid and don't go to school there, avoiding any perceived conflict of interest.

"They're simply volunteer governors who are there to act as stewards for the best interests of higher education at the University of Alberta, and we just thought it was more tactful that the message would come from them," he said.

Although he acknowledged Enterprise and Advanced Education minister Thomas Lukaszuk is trying to "do the right thing," Goss said the Letter of Expectation needs to be clarified.

"We don't have a real clear understanding of the inefficiencies that (the government is) talking about. We do believe that the institution is run very efficiently," he said.

> **"We're ready, willing and able to sit down and chart out a course that we jointly determine is in the best interests of the province and all its stakeholders — the most important ones being the students."**
>
> DOUG GOSS
> CHAIR, UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA BOARD OF GOVERNORS

"At the end of the day, we're ready, willing and able to sit down and chart out a course that we jointly determine is in the best interests of the province and all its stakeholders — the most important ones being the students, who we're trying to give that foundation for them to be successful citizens in our society."

In a joint official blog post from Ferguson-Pell and U of A president Indira Samarasekera on the university's website, the administration has expressed intent to take feedback and discussion from faculty, staff and students, adding the U of A must have its feedback on the Letter of Expectation ready for the government by April 11.

With files from Michelle Mark.

The gateway news presents

ANCIENT GATEWAY ARTICLE OF THE WEEK



Write for Gateway News, and this could be you...minus the skin-tight spandex.

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CAPSE flash mob protests cuts

April Hudson
NEWS EDITOR ▪ @APRIL_HUDSON



KEVIN SCHENK

The second post-secondary protest in a week filled Quad with students, staff and faculty members Thursday afternoon for a flash mob rally and march across campus.

Driven by the Coalition for Action on Post-Secondary Education (CAPSE), the rally saw more than 100 members of the Edmonton community in attendance despite a heavy snowfall.

In connection with a march last Friday that brought more than 500 students, faculty and concerned citizens to the steps of the Alberta Legislature, the movement aims to fight back against a detrimental government budget which recently handed out a 7.2 per cent cut to the University of Alberta's operating budget.

Carrying banners and raising signs bearing slogans such as "Our future lies in the fight for the rights of all" and "Stop paying the energy monopolies," most of the protestors accepted red squares that were handed out — the well-known symbol of last year's Quebec student protests against tuition increases.

While two University of Alberta Protective Services (UAPS) officers stood by, the protestors gathered around Donna Wilson, president of the Association of Academic Staff University of Alberta (AASUA), who called on the government to keep last year's promise of a two per cent budget increase.

"We need to prevent this cutback. We don't want to lose students," she said.

"What would you think about, if this cut goes ahead, and as early as next year the programs that you're in suddenly cease to exist? That is what we're looking at. The courses you need to graduate, the programs that you're in could vanish overnight."

Although Deputy Premier and Minister of Enterprise and Advanced Education Thomas Lukaszuk said in a recent interview with *The Gateway* the government would not be eliminating any programs from underneath students, meaning students enrolled in a program will be able to complete it, fears remain about the effect government control and mandate letters will have on the post-secondary sector.

"The Premier said that she didn't think you need English departments everywhere, (et cetera). The way they're conceiving a kind of slice-and-dice post-secondary educational system suggests that they really shouldn't be in charge of it, because they don't know anything about it," Arts professor Janice Williamson said.

"I think everyone in Alberta is very disappointed. And we're in solidarity with health care, with the teachers at other levels, with the rest of Albertans who are suffering from the extraordinary bad sense of our government."

Shouting chants and slogans, the protestors moved through the Students' Union Building, where PhD student Jeff Diamanti took over SUBstage to give a quick speech.

"This is a coalition — this isn't an opposition," he said, responding to criticism the group has received. "I want to emphasize that we're not opposing anything — or, if we're opposing something, it's only by way of us affirming something."

That "something," Diamanti said, is the fact that students, faculty and staff are "key constituencies" in the university.

"We're not just affirming that we contribute value to the economy. We do, but there's a more important point: that as a common group ... we are a key leverage point in our economy," he said.

"We are the university: not the Investment Committee's external portfolio; not the university's capital budget; not the buildings you see around us, but faculty, staff and students."

brief of the week

COMPILED BY **April Hudson**

FEDERAL BUDGET OFFERS A HELPING HAND FOR POST-SECONDARY STUDENTS

Thursday's release of the federal budget, Jobs, Growth and Long-Term Prosperity, saw skill training measures and job creation incentives as priorities for 2013.

Tabled by Finance Minister Jim Flaherty, the document outlined measures to control Canada's federal deficit, projected at $25.8 billion for 2012-13.

With those measures in place, Flaherty said, the deficit should disappear in two years.

"No nation can borrow its way to long-term prosperity," he told the House of Commons. "We will not balance the budget on the backs of hard-working Canadian families or those in need. But we will balance the budget — and we will do it in 2015."

Proposed Canada Job Grant program

Aside from laying out plans to create a new Building Canada Plan — an infrastructure outline focused on projects creating jobs and economic growth — and promising to close loopholes, Flaherty spoke at length about the government's new Canada Job Grant proposal.

This grant, directed at making recipients more desirable employees in terms of developing useful workplace skills, would potentially provide up to $15,000 per person for training.

"Up to $5,000 will be provided by the federal government. To show their commitment, the employer will be required to provide matching funds. The province or territory will match the final third," Flaherty said.

"Job seekers will train at community colleges, career colleges, polytechnics or union training halls, among others. Most importantly, the new grant should lead to one essential thing for unemployed or underemployed Canadians: a new or better job."

Post-secondary promises

Flaherty told the House the government will be making a three year investment of $70 million to support 5,000 new paid internships for post-secondary graduates, as well as increased funding for First Nations students.

According to the budget documents, the federal Conservatives invest more than $300 million annually in First Nation and Inuit post-secondary students.

This year's budget proposes $10 million over two years to Indspire, an organization that gives 2,200 scholarships annually to Aboriginal students.

Flaherty also announced continued reforms to Canada's immigration system, to allegedly bring skilled international workers to the country.

"We will continue to reform ... so that the best young people who come here to study can remain afterwards to 'try Canada out,'" he said.

The documents add the government will be reforming Canada's Temporary Foreign Worker Program to ensure Canadians get the first shot at jobs.

"Canadians who are seeking jobs should always be first in line for these opportunities," they state.

Measures to be introduced include amending the Immigration and Refugee Protection Regulations so non-official languages cannot be job requirements when hiring through the Temporary Foreign Worker process and a proposal to introduce user fees for employers applying for temporary foreign workers, among others.

The budget also plans to allocate $10 million over two years to market Canada's education system internationally.

Finally, Flaherty announced government support for research and increased collaboration between research institutions and entrepreneurs.

"We will ... commit $225 million to modernize post-secondary research facilities across the country," he said.

"As innovators, Canadians are among the best. We need to work harder to see that new ideas are commercialized and become real products in the marketplace."

For full budget documents, visit budget.gc.ca/2013.



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BUT HE DIES IN THE MIDDLE

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BETRAYAL- We were created for a relationship with God. But our hearts turned proud, and pride corrupted. We abandoned God and intimacy turned to alienation. Humanity is now fallen. None of us lives or loves as we ought.

ANTICIPATION- Though we betrayed God, He did not abandon us. Through the prophets God promised to send a Savior (the Messiah) who would restore and rescue us from the consequences of our sin and betrayal.

PURSUIT- As promised, God sent the one who would rescue and restore us. His name was Jesus. The unique Son of God became one of us. He spoke truth, modeled love, granted forgiveness, and offered life in all of its fullness.

SACRIFICE- Life's greatest mystery was revealed in love's greatest act. Jesus, the author of life, died for us: taking upon himself our guilt and atoning for our sin. How can we be sure? God raised Jesus from the dead. He is alive today and offers life to all who would receive it.

THE GIFT- Now God invites us to come back to him through trusting in Jesus. Forgiveness is a free and undeserved gift, received only through genuine faith in Jesus Christ.

My Father's will is that everyone who looks to the son and believes in him shall have eternal life, and I will raise him up at the last day (John 6:40).

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EDITORIAL **COMMENT**

Quick-fix solutions were never the main focus of Earth Hour

WITH A SIMPLE FLICK OF A SWITCH, YOU MIGHT HAVE PARTICIpated in Earth Hour this past Saturday. However, it seems that more Edmontonians flipped the switch "on" than "off" as we consumed more power during Earth Hour than in the hour which preceded it.

But the ignorance of many was seen through comments on news forums and tweets about the event. Conservative commentator Ezra Levant tweeted, "Calgary loves energy, and isn't ashamed of it." Others boldly posted that they would actively find ways to increase their energy consumption during the hour. At the end of the hour, more energy was consumed than the same hour a week previous.

Household energy consumption has a direct correlation with daylight and temperature. As the sun sets, more lights get turned on to allow us to carry out life in the absence of natural sunlight. Colder temperatures make furnaces work overtime. Both of these variables converged on Saturday as official sunset occurred at 7:54 p.m. right in the middle of Earth Hour, causing lights to turn on and furnaces to amp up as temperatures in the City reached -14 C. And for the hat trick, the Edmonton Oilers game started at 8 p.m.

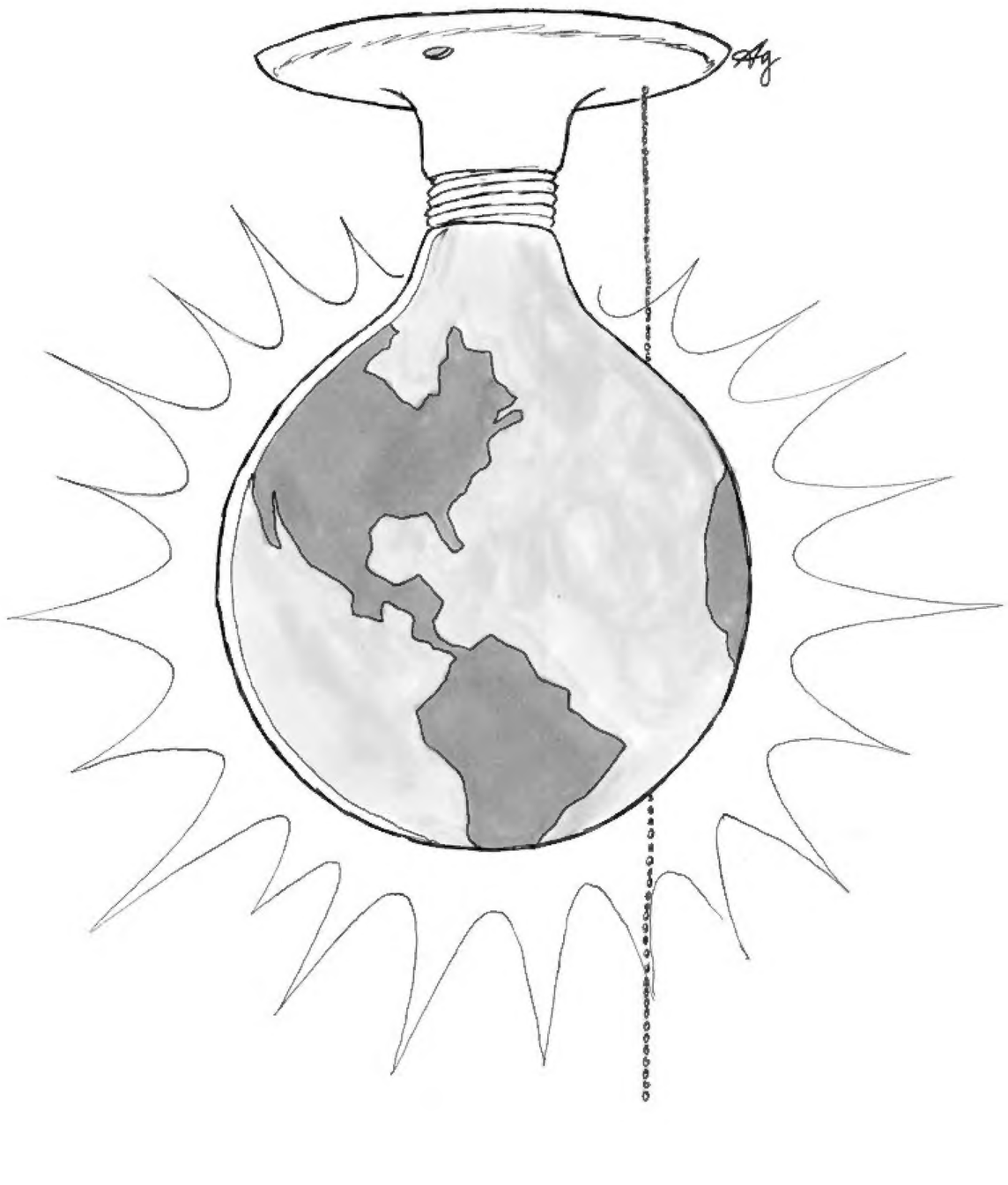
Since 2007, millions worldwide have participated in an event called "Earth Hour". During this hour, citizens around the globe are encouraged to turn off lights in an effort to draw attention to energy consumption which contributes to global warming. Earth Hour is supposed to be about collective impact. It is not the concrete energy consumption which is of importance, but rather the awareness which is brought to the cause of reducing the impact of global warming.

The cynicism of the environmental impact of the event is somewhat warranted. The campaign predominantly encourages turning off light switches during the hour. Visually, this is a powerful image: cities participate in this campaign, turning off the lights to major world monuments such as the Eiffel Tower or the Golden Gate Bridge. However, lights are only a small component to household energy usage. Throughout most homes, appliances such as microwaves and phone chargers constantly consume blind energy.

Additionally, many people light candles during Earth Hour as a means to keep households lit. In order to provide the same amount of light as one incandescent bulb you would need to light 20-40 candles. If people actually did this, more C02 would be released than just leaving the lights on — rather counterproductive.

With these cynical views in mind, it is important to regain focus on the purpose of Earth Hour. The aim isn't to solve global warming or reduce total energy consumption by turning off a light switch — the organizers of the movement aren't naïve enough to believe that the event will have an impact such as this. Rather, the purpose of the event is to bring to people's attention the concrete effects of their decisions. Unplugging your microwave once or turning off lights after you leave a room won't have a significant impact today. But if individuals take the effort to make small changes in their lives on a daily basis, a difference in energy consumption can be seen.

Selena Phillips-Boyle
PHOTO EDITOR



ANTHONY GOERTZ

MICROTORIAL **COMMENT**

How am I supposed to graduate on time here?

THE RECENT BUDGET CUTS TO THE U OF A'S 2013-14 SCHOOL YEAR are hurting everyone, but the worst part by far is the class cuts. Literally the day after the budget was announced, I was innocently browsing my schedule on Bear Tracks when I was greeted with horrifying news: four of my selected classes for next year had been cancelled.

Excuse us for trying to graduate, but we need some of those classes; I wasn't taking that French class for my health. But what's even worse than having classes cancelled is the complete lack of help by the U of A administration in figuring out what to do when mandatory classes or prerequisites are cancelled. I've talked to several people who've been affected by these class cuts, and who are left extremely confused about what to do next. Emails to advisors are often left unanswered for weeks, and students are left in limbo as they can't register in the classes they need to. The university needs to be more vocal about what students should do. It's only been a few weeks since the budget announcement, and already students are finding themselves in a hellish situation.

Alana Willerton
LITERALLY ANGRY EDITOR

letters to the editor

FROM THE **WEB**

CAPSE is a worthwhile cause to protest about

(Re: "*Protests and social movements cannot achieve the same goals,*" by Annie Pumphrey, Mar. 20)

I want to begin by thanking you for taking the time to write about these issues. Sadly, I find this entire article problematic, and its entire tone indicative of a generalized apolitical attitude that finds an easy home at the U of A.

For one, you seem to lament the fact that people expressed differing opinions on the recent budget within a forum that was specifically designed to elicit such responses. This is what happens when people start talking together — they disagree, as I am with you right now. A lot of great ideas grew out of that first assembly, which you disturbingly dismiss as being tainted by differing opinions. This stance of constant critique will get this university nowhere.

And this leads me to my second point: your acceptance of these budget cuts as inevitable. While this may very well be true — but over at CAPSE we're trying to change that — it is this position that is one of the most dangerous to any democracy. When people begin to accept everything that is thrust upon them, without any attempt at resistance, those actions are naturalized by the public as being correct: "Yes, the government was correct to cut funds to the university because the university found a way to make those cuts happen, and I didn't hear anybody complain about it, so what's the big deal?" Needless to say, CAPSE wants to avoid this situation.

And finally, your neat distinction between a protest and social movement was fragile at best. Protests and social movements are interlinked, and while I agree that we should be working to put forward specific demands — which we are — these demands must also point to larger social issues.

I can only hope that this article was cranked out to meet some deadline. One would hope that a student who is committed to social change would take a more self-reflective stance on the opinions they express in such a widely-read public forum.

I hope you continue to involve yourself with CAPSE, but let's not lie down and play dead. There is still life left in our university.

Jamin Huntley
VIA WEB

Protests need a clear and well-defined goal

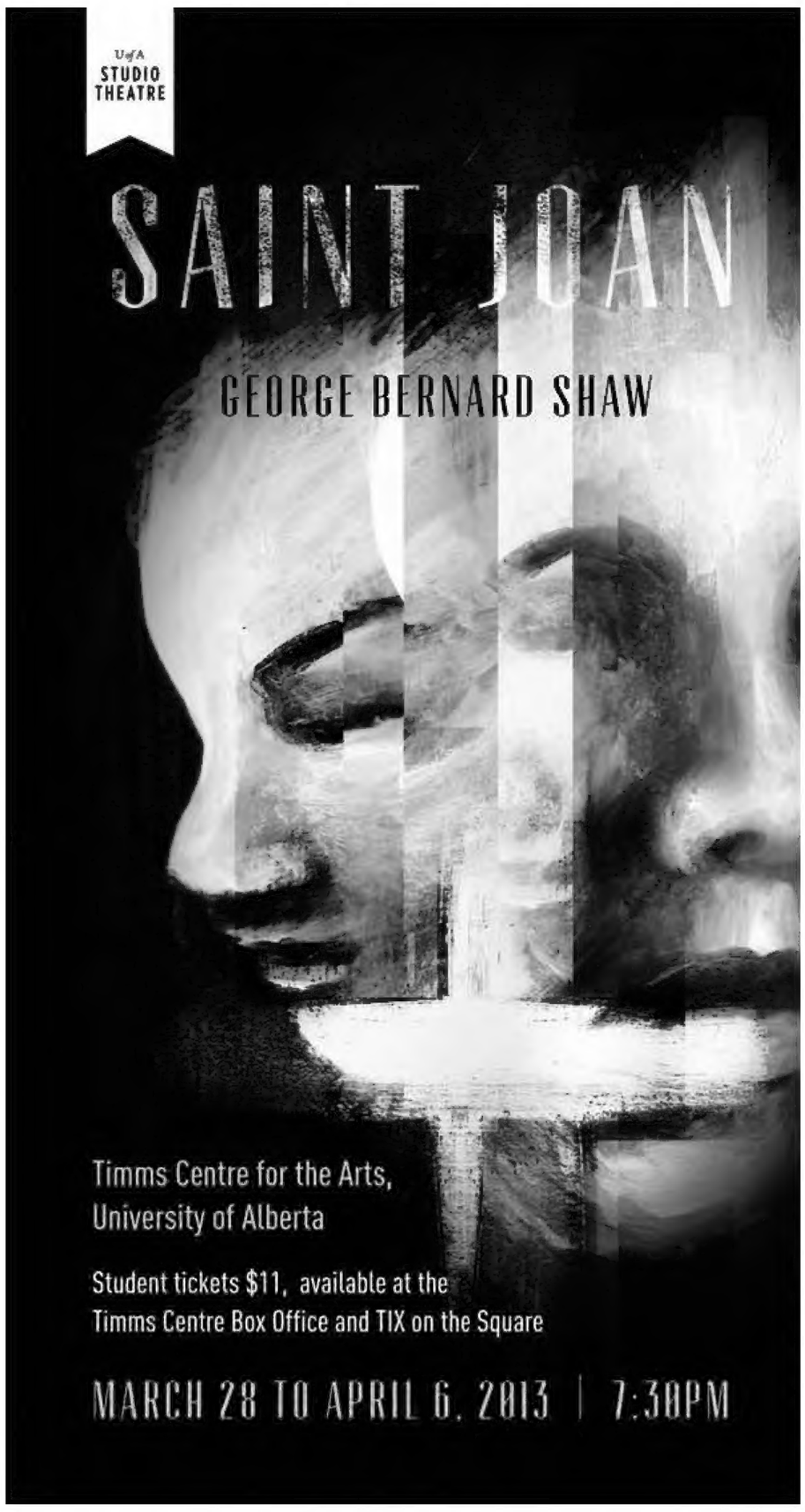
(Re: "*Protests and social movements cannot achieve the same goals,*" by Annie Pumphrey, Mar. 20)

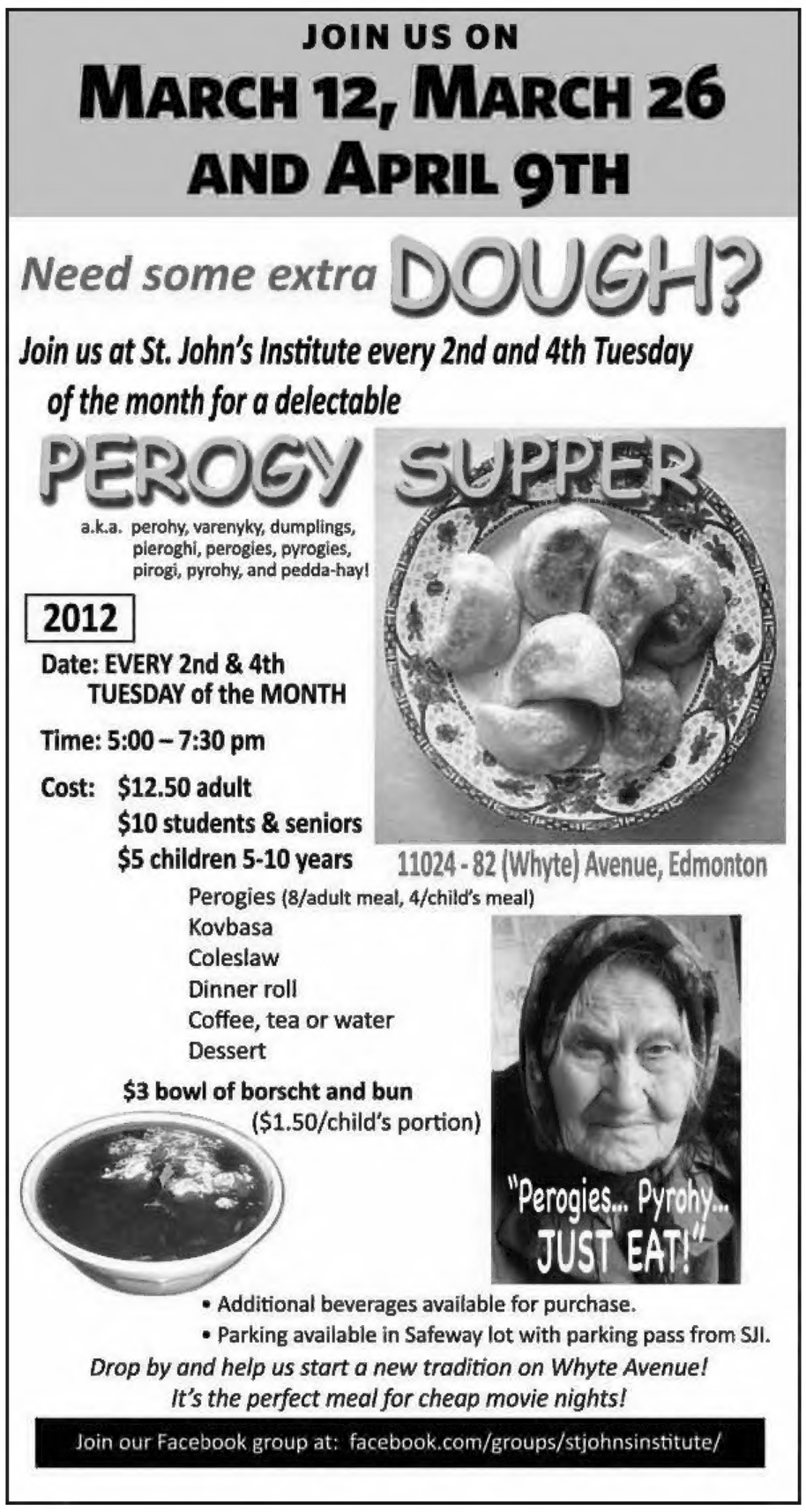
Loved the article, so refreshingly true. The nature of our protests are diverging more and more from a want for social change to protesting for the sake of protesting. We must promote protests that are backed up by knowledge and know-how. Simply yelling out things that we do not like cannot invoke positive change. To put so much time and effort on signs and marching is useless if we don't take the time to help think of solutions. Even opening our minds and putting ourselves in the position of the government will help with getting ideas that can be beneficial to both groups. Understanding budget cuts mean understanding that the government isn't trying to be mean to university students, but considering that sometimes there is no other alternative. It is hard to stomach, but there are trade-offs, and not cutting the budget for universities may lead to an even more negative cut to another section like hiring elementary school teachers. Before we protest we must first identify the different factors and even possible government sections that have an unnecessary amounts of excess money that we can allocate to our own cause. Even if the government may indeed be unfairly cutting the budget and allocating the money saved to things of no value, this step of educating ourselves to finding the hidden problems should be the first step before mindless babble about a vague topic. At the end of the day, we must learn to realize the nature of protests, which is gaining positive solutions to problems that we face.

Carlie Yeung
VIA WEB

Letters to the editor should be sent to letters@gateway.ualberta.ca (no attachments, please).

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Lukaszuk has no place in making mandates for university education



Darcy Ropchan
OPINION EDITOR



SUPPLIED

We want you to be leaders and innovators in this province, but you'll get no help from us. That's the message behind Advanced Education and Enterprise Minister Thomas Lukaszuk's recent mandate letter to post-secondary institutions in Alberta. Lukaszuk has a clear vision as to how universities and colleges should be run in Alberta, but it's clear that his thinking is grossly out of step with what is needed.

Letters addressed to the 26 post-secondary institutions in Alberta lay out Lukaszuk's expectations for how universities and colleges will run in the coming years. Although this is a "letter of expectation," Lukaszuk has stated, "What we arrive at is negotiable but the fact is there will be change and change has to occur and that is not negotiable." As expected, the mandate letters have drawn a chorus of outcry, and the University of Alberta's Board of Governors has issued a response letter detailing the harm provincial cuts will have on the quality of education at this institution.

Although universities receive a certain amount of public money from the provincial government, it's completely out of line for Lukaszuk to try to mandate what post-secondary institutions in this province should be doing. He claims that the point of the letters is to let universities know that they are on their own when it comes to making cuts, but his letter clearly lays out what he wants done. Post-secondaries really have no say in the matter.

Perhaps the most egregious part of Lukaszuk's post-secondary vision is the centralization of programs. Lukaszuk remarked in an *Edmonton Journal* article "You don't want to have five mediocre engineering schools. You're better off having two really good engineering schools. There's no doubt about it."

Despite the fact that Alberta only has two engineering schools, Lukaszuk's comments are cause for great worry. Premier Alison Redford's recent comments seemed to echo Lukaszuk's feelings: "Do we need to have a political science faculty at every university, at every university and post-secondary institution across this province where every single one of them is aspiring to be the same? Do we? I don't think so."

Both Redford and Lukaszuk's views on the same programs being offered at different universities completely ignore the importance of educational accessibility. There's nothing wrong with wanting to make Albertan post-secondary institutions more efficient, but when one program is offered at only one university, it makes things exceedingly difficult for students who wish to enroll in that field of study but don't have the financial means to relocate to a new city. It doesn't matter if more than one university is offering the same program — the educational experience itself is different. It may be the same course material, but different professors, students and learning environments make for a unique educational outcome, regardless of the program duplicity.

The University of Alberta Board of Governors response warns of the dire consequences these cuts and expectations will have on the U of A. The Board of Governors stated that being another average university is not acceptable. They're absolutely right. The University of Alberta, and all other post-secondary institutions across Alberta for that matter, shouldn't have to settle for being average or just keeping their heads above water. Post-secondary institutions should be striving to be innovators and leaders of industry, not just in our province or Canada, but also the entire world. This can't be achieved unless we have the support for our provincial government.

Thomas Lukaszuk wants universities and colleges in Alberta to be as efficient and cost-effective as possible. Cost efficiency is important, but it can't come at the cost of a quality education.

Lukaszuk has no right to dictate how the inter-workings of post secondaries should be carried out. If he and Alison Redford don't want mediocre universities and want post-secondary institutions to be innovative leaders and contributors to the local economy, they need to start acting like by truly supporting post-secondary education.

#3LF three lines free

Got something that you need to get off your mind? Either email us at threelinesfree@gateway.ualberta.ca, tweet @threelinesfree, or message us at www.thegatewayonline.ca/threelinesfree

If everyone in a computer lab is being silent, is it rude for a group of people to walk in and have an extended, loud conversation?

I always wear leggings as pants. Bitch I'm 5 foot 3 and 105lbs. It can't look THAT bad.

Wait a minute, this isnt UAlberta Confessions. Butts

Fuck that Ash Ketchum
Wont evolve his Pikachu
What a pussy bitch

The Book Cellar has affordable books, friendly staff and a great atmosphere. I've been stopping by once a week for the last three years. Hate to see it have to go.

I gave Alison Redford a plate of corn muffins to paint my fence. And she never did!

Wanted: 3-5 students with no engineering experience to help fix the escalators. Project completion date: don't worry, we'll make it

First, UofA Memes
Now, UofA Confessions
Becoming Reddit

I want to sleep with my prof so bad it's hard to pay attention in class. How do I make this happen??? (I'm a girl)

Five years here and all I learned was it's useless to conceal my farts in public

disappointed w/pope francis. looks like he's been pushing too many pencils!

next election hoping we can replace Redford with a more honest candidate, such as the Wicked Witch. and also the Wildrose with, say, more garbage cans.

all in favour of mandatory short skirt day (all men, women, and skirt-able animals (birds excluded they bite!!))

Sigh.. budget troubles. Everyone get ready for Three Lines Buck Fifty

Dear University,Why is construction at the PAW Centre continuing, When faculties are being asked to make 20% cuts?

Butts
Dicksdicksdicksdicksdicksdicks

Brent Kelly has already mastered saying what every you need to to get elected.

we need new funds? it's easy! just have a wiener sale. students like two things: dirty puns and hot, juicy wieners.

My recent (ex)boyfriend said he "needed to find himself." Turns out, he "found" himself in a 20yr old Visual Arts Student from Gmac.

My ginger haired friend,
Why are you dapper as fuck?
God was kind to you.

WTF. Beartracks layout change before enrolment dates. Somebody wants to screw over the student body.

A popular slang in Danish for having your period is "Der er kommunister i lysthuset", or, "There are communists in the funhouse." [BG]

The Gateway reserves the right to refuse publication of any 3LF it deems racist, sexist, libellous, homophobic or otherwise hateful in nature. Just please be nice.

The cost of closing Experimental Lakes Area not worth the savings



Adrian Lahola-Chomiak
OPINION STAFF

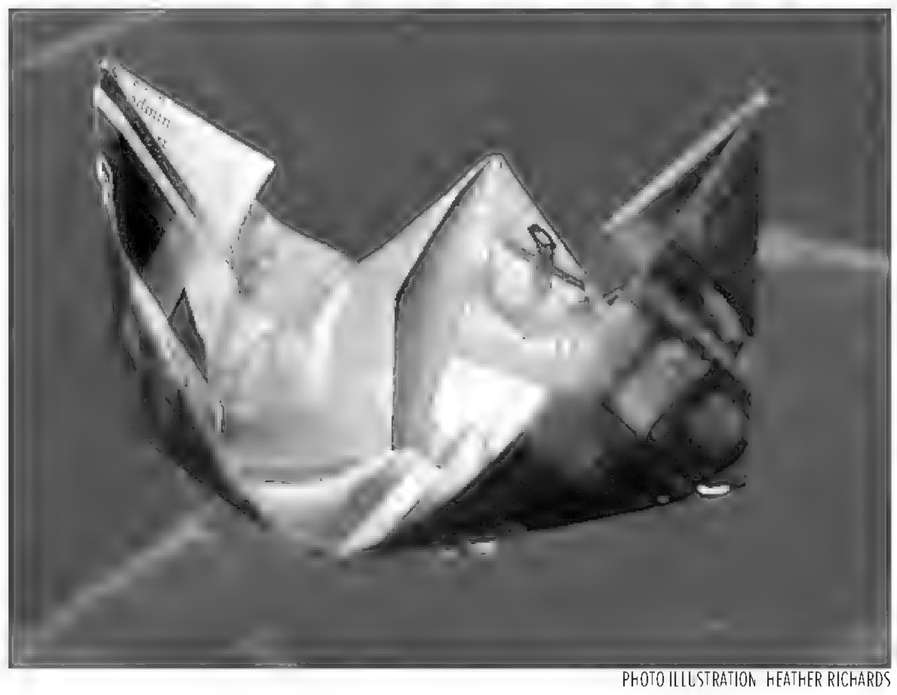


PHOTO ILLUSTRATION HEATHER RICHARDS

Leave a budget to the Conservative party of Canada and they'll give you a medley of wasteful spending and harmful cuts. That's why it's not surprising to hear that the Experimental Lakes Area has officially met its demise in the latest round of cuts to Canadian science and research. It's frustrating to see a cornerstone of environmental science be undercut by politicians more focused on campaign bullet points than public wellbeing. Managing our national debt is an important problem but mindlessly looking for fiscal corners to cut will be extremely harmful in the long run.

The ELA is a one-of-a-kind facility comprised of 58 lakes where scientists research everything from pollutants to farming fish. Historically, the ELA has been essential in identifying the impact of acid rain. In both cases the information spurred policymakers to introduce legislation, which limited the freedom of corporations to pollute the environment and endanger the public health. Unfortunately, this mutually beneficial relationship is coming to an end with the recent cuts to the Department of Fisheries and Oceans. Scientists are losing access to the best freshwater research facility in the world and the public is losing a valuable environmental watchdog.

What's ridiculous about the cuts though is that ultimately they will be costing more than they save, at least in the short run. On the whole, the ELA costs about $2 million to run per year, including facilities and staff. If it were as simple as taking the valuables and putting a lock on the door, that would be one thing but the nature of the facility and an agreement between various levels of government means it's Ottawa's responsibility to remediate the area. The estimated cost of doing so is around $50 million, which means it will be about 25 years before this ridiculous decision begins to pay for itself. Regardless, $2 million in savings per year is a drop in the federal budget lake barely worth mentioning.

In a strange twist of fate, the cuts have left some researchers with federal research grant money and nowhere now to spend it. Dr. Chris Metcalfe received an $800,000 NSERC grant to study the impact of nano-silver, but with the ELA being shutdown, his group is left without a suitable facility to conduct their research. Investment into nanotechnology has only increased over the last decade, as University of Alberta students are acutely aware of. It's absurd to consider developing these compounds without impartially examining their impact on the environment. That's just one example of the impact these cuts are already having.

There's been a lot of talk of government scientists being muzzled and asked to keep their results secret. Closing the ELA is yet another chapter in this narrative, with environmental researchers and facilities being systematically targeted with budget cuts and internal pressure to keep quiet. If the cost of operating the ELA was significant or the work being done there unimportant, then maybe the Conservative party could justify the cuts but as it stands they seem more like an ideological jab than a fiscal necessity. Despite their claims to the contrary, the evidence indicates the Conservative party does not care about environmental protection.

Budget problems aren't easy to solve but solution like closing the ELA are more harmful than helpful. The measly $2 million per year operating cost pales in comparison to both the national deficit and the real cost of closing the facility. However, closing the ELA is an immeasurable loss to Canadian science. No other facility in the world is capable of carrying out similar research both in scope and kind. The Conservative party may be willing to sell an arm and a leg to get us out of debt, but they should be wary of what kind of shape country will be left in.

New common-law marriage rules threaten relationships



Jennifer Polack
OPINION STAFF

It's always a terrifying and slightly exhilarating stage in a relationship when you decide to move in together. Your bond is tested by the rigours of everyday life — many relationships have been violently terminated by as trivial things. However, as of March 16, crossing the threshold of your first apartment together in British Columbia carries a lot more significance than simply discovering your significant other's disgusting habits.

The province has now implemented a new Family Law Act that changes the definition of "spouse" to apply to common-law couples that have lived together in a "marriage-like" relationship for more than two years. Therefore, despite the fact that you and your spouse were never actually married, you would still have all the legal responsibilities of regular married people — splitting assets and sharing debts included. Although this is happening in British Columbia, it could have implications for all of Canada.

The logic behind changing the Family Relations Act into the new and improved Family Law Act is that the Family Relations Act was 34 years old and needed to better reflect the needs of a modern society. On paper this would make sense, because according to Statistics Canada, the number of common-law couples is growing three times faster than the number of actual married couples. However one of the reasons behind modern couples not wanting to swear eternal vows of fidelity is that relationships in modern society tend not to last very long.

The divorce rate across Canada has been steadily increasing since the early 1960s to the point where 41 per cent of marriages will end in divorce before their 30th anniversary. Considering the legal headache associated with divorce, it makes perfect sense for many couples to skip over the hassle of a wedding, pre-nuptials and lawyers and instead opt to spend the next 20-30 years of their lives in a state of common-law bliss. But with the implementation of the Family Law Act, after only two years of being together in the same household everything from financials to children is split down the middle — with the only exceptions being gifts, inheritances and pre-relationship property.

As a result, one can begin to see how some people would be a huge fan of the new Family Law Act. However, the people who don't see the problems associated with it are most likely the ones who will be exploiting it. The Family Law Act takes the choice to decide if you want to take your relationship to the next level away from individuals. It's a default marriage based off statistical evidence that has almost no real world application.

Half of the appeal of a common-law relationship is the level of independence you are able to maintain while still being in a committed and close relationship. It takes the focus off financial implications and instead focuses on how the individuals in the relationship feel towards each other regardless of their assets.

When you are considered someone's spouse after living with them for only two years, it changes that relationship dynamic into a business interaction.

This transition not only has increased potential for tension in the relationship, but could also actually deter people who want to maintain their financial independence fin their relationship.

A realistic glimpse into how provincial budget cuts will affect the U of A



Scott Fenwick
OPINION STAFF



PHOTO ILLUSTRATION ROSS VINCENT

There are still many things left to be said and done before the University of Alberta submits its revised budget and Comprehensive Institutional Plan to the province in May, but there are some very vulnerable parts of the university that are at risk. Some changes will happen in the background if you're not paying attention. But others, depending on your program, will be in your face.

No matter what the revised budget will look like, equipment-intensive faculties have more flexibility than book-intensive ones — when public institutions cut their budgets, they usually layoff staff only as a last resort. Instead, they first try delaying expensive projects into later years.

But faculties like Arts, Education or Native Studies have little flexibility. Professor salaries have a larger slice of these faculties' budgets compared to Science or Engineering. Scientific research and instruction is usually more expensive than in the social sciences and humanities, given the expensive equipment involved. Faculty salaries have a smaller share in the Science and Engineering faculty budgets.

Where Science or Engineering can delay equipment maintenance or replacement to save money, there's no such way to save when your main teaching tool is assigning readings. If salaries take up too large a percentage of a faculty's budget, there is little choice but to cut teaching staff to some extent — with Arts being hurt more than others.

Moreover, faculty and staff salaries risk becoming a big target. The U of A has a structural deficit where its expenses increase by four per cent annually, largely because of its collective agreements with faculty and staff. Funding hasn't kept up, and it isn't likely to anytime soon. The administration said they don't plan to declare a "financial emergency," which would give them the power to amend the agreements mid-stream, but there's nothing stopping them from doing it next year if they can't cut anywhere else.

Another thing that's at risk is the quality of student services, from library hours to academic advising. Although university administrators will try their best to save research and instruction, this will most likely take a severe hit — especially if non-instructional fees like the CoSS fee don't increase.

Last year's Comprehensive Institutional Plan spoke of "streamlining" student services and investing in early intervention programs. Optimistically speaking, this could mean that student services can become a "one-stop shop," and become less confusing for those seeking help. But if the cuts are too deep, especially with central administration and the Registrar's Office, services they're responsible for could be seriously bogged down — such as posting final grades to Bear Tracks.

Looking long-term, this $43 million budget cut will change the very way campus operates. Given the recent few years where the U of A base operating grant was either cut or held at the same amount, administrative efficiencies have been sought and found. Going beyond this means a rethinking the way the university functions. This idea has been stressed by university administration since last month — and they aren't kidding. As recently as last week, university president Indira Samarasekera said the U of A has reached a "crisis point" because of its budget.

One can look for examples from the last university shake-up in the 1990s, when the U of A's base grant was cut by 20 per cent. Several faculties and departments merged to save money: Home Economics joined Agriculture and Forestry and Dentistry nearly disappeared. On top of this, the cap on tuition fee increases was removed and staff salaries were rolled back.

Although collaboration with other post-secondary institutions may bring administrative costs down, there are usually upfront costs involved. If, for example, all institutions are to share the same payroll service, there would be transition costs such as transferring everyone's information onto one server big enough to handle everything. If institutions are supposed to pay for these costs themselves, it would pull resources further away from campus.

Still, there's hope. The U of A has been through worse times and yet remained one of Canada's top universities. It'll just be a hell of a ride until everything gets settled.

Guantanamo prisoners deserve basic human rights guarantee



Billy-Ray Belcourt
OPINION STAFF

The Obama administration and Congress need to re-examine their priorities and political agendas in the wake of widespread hunger strikes at the Guantanamo Bay confinement camp where human rights violations are blatantly ignored. Stemming from a long line of controversial events, these protests are yet another shining example of how American politics has failed to safeguard basic civil liberties and comply with its own democratic principles.

According to lawyers and interest groups representing the 166 detainees at the controversial prison, approximately 130 have vowed to refrain from eating due to what prisoners are suggesting was a maltreatment of the Qur'an. The protests have gotten so extreme that eight detainees are now being force fed through nasal tubes to combat weight loss — an undeniable act of torture. Two strikers troubled by severe dehydration have also been hospitalized.

The alleged violation of the Qur'an only added fuel to the fire since inmates have been subjected to indefinite detention without proper evidence or trial. Some have been imprisoned for more than a decade based on conspiracies and feeble allegations even though nearly half have been cleared for transfer or release. It seems the US government has forgotten about the importance of due process, the right to a fair and speedy trail and prohibitions against cruel and unusual punishment. As mirrored in various Supreme Court rulings, the US Constitution applies to all individuals detained in the country — illegal immigrants or citizens.

And despite President Obama's 2008 campaign promise to close the base in Cuba and subsequent legislation signed Jan. 22, 2009 proclaiming a 120 day suspension of the detention facility and a permanent closure in the following year, Guantanamo Bay still remains in operation, in all its dehumanizing and unconstitutional infamy.

In 2002, former President George W. Bush pushed for the opening of the facility as a measure for the military to combat the so-called "War on Terror." As a result, hundreds were incarcerated based on suspicions of terrorist activities. Since then, current and former prisoners have spoken of torture, psychological abuse and vindictive conduct. And yet Congress is still torn between ensuring civil liberties are met and imposing unlawful and brutal confinement.

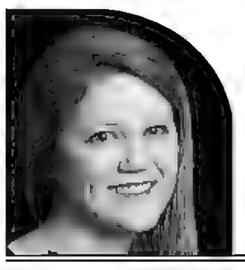
Politics is characteristically plagued by opposing party disagreements, but if nothing is done and the onus is not taken by the government to ensure change, people will die. They'll be considered martyrs and it will ignite outrage not only within the prison but internationally. Soon enough, every inmate will be protesting in some manner, and the government won't be able to downplay the severity of the situation as they have up to this point.

Regardless of the suspected crimes these prisoners have supposedly committed or the terrorist organizations they are rumoured to belong to, they're people and deserve to be granted basic human rights and civil liberties. The prison system was created in part to rehabilitate people so they could effectively reintegrate into society. But clearly, the US government has opted to ignore this ideal, creating a religiously insensitive and inhumane environment resulting in the necessity for inmate upheaval.

These hunger strikes have received vast media attention — and rightfully so. American citizens need to be aware of the travesties occurring in their own backyard. These inmates and advocacy groups should do whatever they can to guarantee light is cast on the shadows created by a decade of xenophobia and hyper-vigilance. It's the 21st century and no democratic nation should allow these events to transpire.

If Obama wants a legacy of unjust imprisonment and apathy to appear on his political portfolio as President, his administration should by all means continue to do little about Guantanamo Bay. But if he'd rather ensure that the democratic principles cherished by Americans are upheld, there needs to be concrete policies introduced so the prisoners can receive the fair and timely trial they rightfully deserve so Guantanamo Bay can be closed once and for all.

Bank levy will breed distrust of government for Cyprians



Hannah Madsen
OPINION STAFF

Your money's not safe in the bank — at least not if you live in Cyprus. Their economy was weakened thanks to the American financial crisis in 2008. In 2009, the economy contracted by 1.67 per cent, and it's only gone downhill from there. This may lead to political upheaval in addition to the economic turmoil that's already taking place. It may be that the government was caught between a rock and a hard place, but levying the bank accounts of private citizens is a terrible idea.

In 2012, Cyprus took out an emergency loan from Russia in an effort to bolster its failing economy, but it was ineffective, and finally it reached a crux on Sunday. Last week there was talk by Cyprian leaders that a levy upon the savings accounts of Cyprian citizens was the only way to raise enough money and convince the Eurozone to give them a bailout. Their suggestion was to levy the accounts of small savers by 6.75 per cent and those of citizens with more money in the national banks by 9.9 per cent.

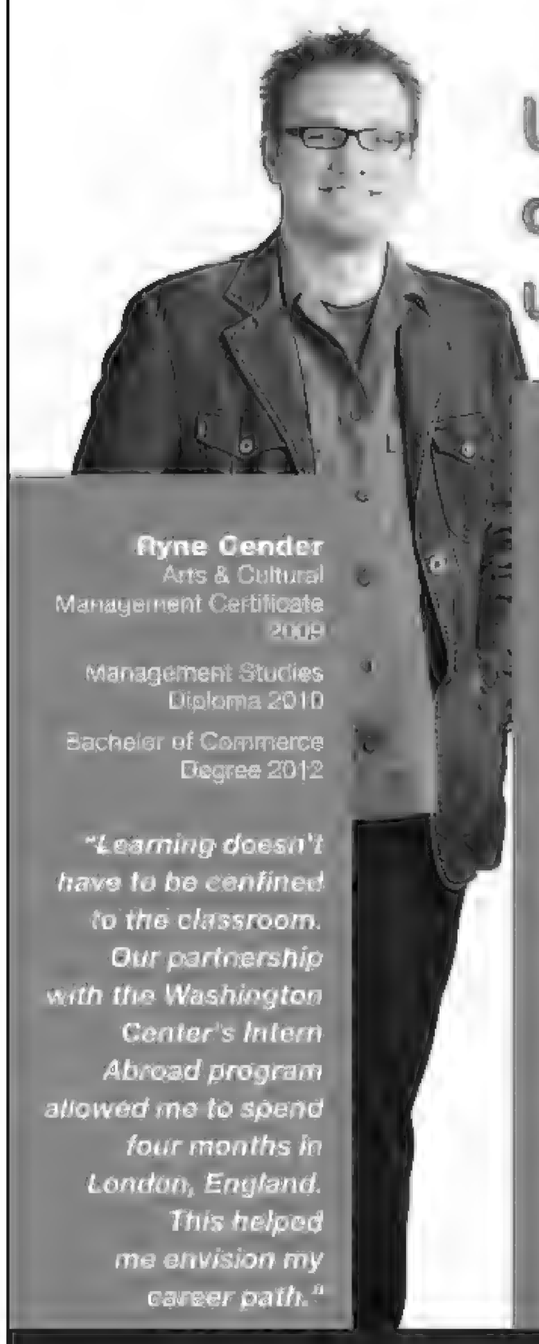
However, due to the huge public outrage — because nobody wants the government confiscating their money — and Russian displeasure with the prospect of Cyprian levies, the proposition was defeated in Parliament on Tuesday of last week. Then came another idea, this time a levy of 25 per cent placed against accounts which hold €100,000 or more. This measure would hit investors who use Cyprus as an offshore banking location, so there was still a substantial outcry against them. The final proposition, decided upon on Sunday, states that individuals who hold €100,000 or more in accounts with the two largest banks in Cyprus could face a levy of up to 40 per cent of their funds. Additional measures have been taken as well — people who have money in Cyprian banks are restricted to taking out a maximum of €120 a day — last week it was restricted at €260 per day.

But the government is not without blame. The moment they took out an emergency loan back in 2012, austerity measures should have been instituted. Instead, it wasn't until November that the government created a semblance of austerity regulations, and after all that bureaucratic running around, they weren't instituted until just recently. The government has no right to take money from people's accounts, even if there is a grave need for funds. By doing so, or even threatening to do so for the last couple weeks, they're initiating a new form of interaction with their citizenry almost as risk-laden as the national debt itself. They're undermining the faith Cyprian people have in their government, and more importantly, in their banks. After this, people will probably be reluctant to deposit money at all, resorting to keeping it at home where they can control it.

Maybe if the government borrowed it and offered to pay it back with interest the trust of the average Cyprian could be kept.

MACEWAN

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Ryne Cender
Arts & Cultural Management Certificate 2009
Management Studies Diploma 2010
Bachelor of Commerce Degree 2012

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"I know that the human being and the fish can coexist peacefully."



* IN CONTEXT:
Bush was saying he would not support the removal of energy-producing dams.

gateway opinion

It's all about perspective.
MEETINGS WEDNESDAY AT 5 IN 3-04 SUB

A collection of some of life's cringeworthy memories



Opinion
Staff
GROUP COMMENTARY



WHY DID I DO THAT? Looking back on this embarrassing caper makes my face redder than that poppy. PHOTO ILLUSTRATION STEFANO LEE

Life is full of embarrassing memories. Thinking back on them can fill us with shame, regret and a screaming voice inside that says "What the hell were you thinking?" But to make you feel better about your own past stupid mistakes, *The Gateway* is sharing a few of our own cringeworthy memories

Annie Pumphrey

Remembrance Day is an important day of the year. Poppies are pinned to the lapels of jackets, war documentaries are shown on television and masses of people gather at memorial services. However, for my 13 year-old self, the significance of Remembrance Day didn't really resonate. For some unknown reason, I was still chosen to be the master of ceremonies for my junior high's Remembrance Day service. It started out as planned — I introduced a couple of speeches by teachers and watched far too many awkward poems read by far too awkward teenagers.

And then it was time. "Now for a minute of silence," I said squeakily to the crowded gymnasium. Silence. Too silent. My hands started sweating, and I suddenly felt an entirely inappropriate urge to laugh. And there, in front of all of my teachers, classmates, and a couple of veterans who were remembering those who died in the war, I burst out laughing. I don't remember what was so funny, but I do remember the hundreds of horrified, insulted faces. And every Remembrance Day since then, I spent my entire moment of silence shamefully remembering that fateful day.

Megan Hymanyk

The past is full of memories, many of a humiliating and embarrassing nature. At 15, I, like many other high school students, dreamed of working as a barista, and my hopes were elevated when I witnessed a job fair at the local Starbucks.

What I didn't know upon walking through that coffee shop door was that there was a surprise in store for me. I handed over my resume — a choice I would later regret — and was seated with a manager. Only halfway through the interview did I recognize that the manager was not searching for an employee, but for gold — on the inside of her nose. She continued for minutes that felt like hours, rummaging away while apparently unembarrassed by what she was doing.

I, on the other hand, was revolted simply being witness to a public nose-picking by a woman who made drinks and prepared food all day. I had no idea where to look: her face, the ground? Every time my eyes fell on her features I couldn't look away: it was like witnessing a bad car accident.

This episode from my past is filled with regret: if only I hadn't walked through those doors, I wouldn't be filled with the embarrassment of a witness.

Hannah Madsen

A few years ago I was speeding down the Whitemud because I was late to a Norwegian final. I'd never seen a police laser set-up before in my life, so when I saw the car on the side of the road with the hood pushed up and people in yellow vests milling around it, I thought it was damaged and they were flagging people over to help. As I approached, one of them waved at me irritably. Thinking that they needed extra space, I moved into the next lane over, farther away from the car. As I almost passed them and slowed down, the angry person waved at me again, and at this point I realized they were a cop.

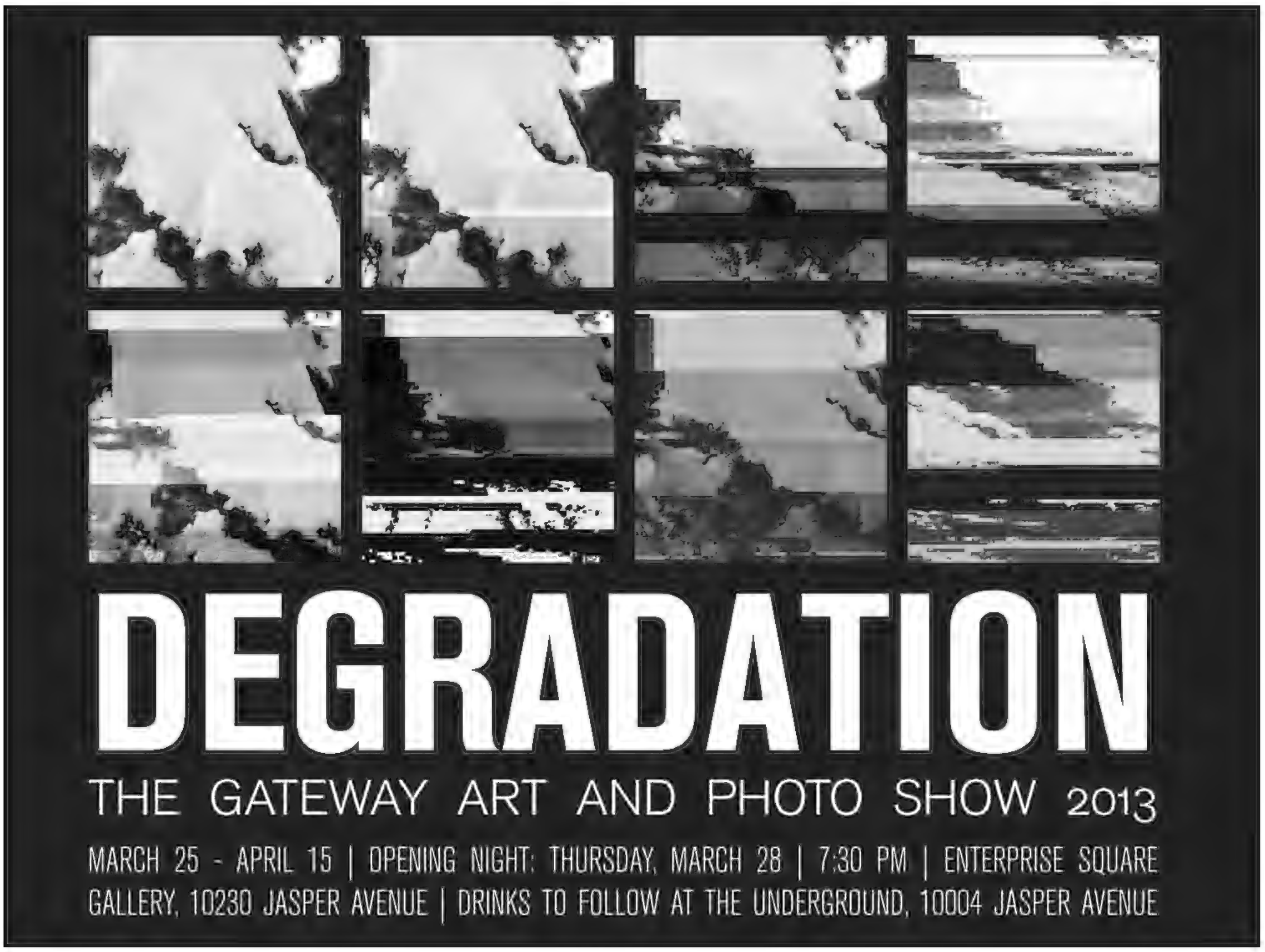
I pulled over and almost got an extra citation along with my speeding ticket for avoiding the police, but as it was I still got charged 150 bucks.

Jennifer Polack

It's not even remotely shocking that my most cringe-worthy moment was inspired under the charming influence of my favourite depressant: alcohol. It's like a burst of manipulative sunshine on your already questionable conscious — or is it just me?

Anyway, in one of my many alcohol-induced frenzies taking a cab back from Whyte Ave, the Irish Car Bombs and wine spritzers I had ingested in the past half hour somehow curdled in my stomach and, having nowhere else to put my projectile vomit torpedo, I commenced up-chucking into my brand new Louis Vuitton handbag. If that's not cringe-worthy enough, I later had to sift through my regurgitated bad decisions in order to find my wallet, cell phone and keys.

Unfortunately, there was no saving the bag. Thankfully my wallet missed the majority of the spew so I had about $50 worth of vomit scented bills that I used to buy a bottle of whiskey and some gummy bears. The silver lining is that I could afford to make my bad decisions again. And again, and again.















Thrifting

words and styling
by Julianna Damer

photos by AmirAli Sharifi and Selena Phillips-Boyle
models: Jacquelin Gregoire, Annie Pumphrey, and Alex Migdal
Special thanks to Goodwill Industries of Alberta

The stale perfume of used garments, endless racks of oversized grandpa sweaters, polyester dress shirts and mom jeans — it might not seem like it, but thrift stores contain hidden gems within this sea of heinous clothing. And U of A education student Lébassé Guéladé is out to spread the word about the power of thrifting with her blog, *La Thrift*.

Guéladé started writing to show that anyone can pull off a thrifted look. Her weekly posts feature her friends wearing outfits she styles using her own garments, often combining new pieces from her closet with thrifted finds from Value Village.

"You don't have to be thrifty A to Z — you can mix and match from different places and shop everywhere and get a final result that is unique," she explains.

Unlike brand name shops, thrift stores are filled with one-of-a-kind pieces that ultimately push people to think beyond the trends.

"With thrift shopping, you really get to develop what your style is because you find yourself not being attached to a brand or a look. You are freer. You come (to the thrift store) and it's really your senses — whatever you touch and bring close to you ... There's a reason why you're attracted to it. Nobody else is telling you this is cool.

"It's really about looking for a piece that works for you and that makes you happy. You don't wear it for other people to enjoy it."













THRIFTING TIPS

For the uninitiated, thrift shopping can be a daunting experience. But Lébassé has a few tips to make things easier, helping you become a thrift shop pro in no time.

1. You don't have to start at the first rack you see and spend the whole day there. Instead, look for a specific section of clothing such as blazers, dresses or sweaters.
2. For guys, it's best to go with the right size. When a girl wears something baggy or loose, it can look sexy, but on a guy, it just looks frumpy.
3. Invest in a few nice belts — they can work magic. If you find a cool skirt that doesn't quite fit, just pull it up over your chest and belt it at the middle of your waist — it works perfectly.
4. Be wary of plaid clothing. You might be drawn to it, but it's almost a bit cliché, too obviously something you found in a thrift shop.
5. Dry-clean almost everything. It's expensive, but it gets rid of that thrift store smell. Definitely dry-clean jackets, hats and delicate things like dresses, but don't pay for dry-cleaning on clothes that can withstand a washing machine.
6. Don't buy anything with a stain. If you see a stain, it won't come off.
7. If you find something you like that fits you, just buy it. Chances are you won't be able to find it again if you leave and come back for it later.
8. Get a membership card for Value Village so you know when the 50 per cent sales are. The cheaper, the better.
9. Don't have any expectations when you go thrift shopping. You might find success or you might strike out — you can't predict how things will go.

*>>> Check out **thegatewayonline.ca** for more photos and our thrifting video feature!*

Arts & Culture

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social intercourse

COMPILED BY Kate Black

Music 203 Presents: RUTHERFUCKER

Convocation Hall (U of A campus)
Thursday, March 28 at 7 p.m.
Free

Nestled between the shady wooded paths of the Arts Quad and Rutherford Library, the U of A's Convocation Hall is usually hailed as one of the most beautiful places on campus. However, the quaint aura of the Hall is being tipped off its axis this week, as 12 local bands stir up the classy digs with RUTHERFUCKER. Featuring a range of bands from the delicate musings of indie darling Lyra Brown to the edgier free-style rap of Mitchell Lawler, the concert will shake your perceptions of the old building and expand your horizons of local music.

Rihanna

With A$AP Rocky
Wednesday, March 27 at 7:30 p.m.
Rexall Place (7424 118 Ave.)
$44.50 to $106.45 at ticketmaster.ca

For Rihanna, *Unapologetic* isn't just the title of her latest album — it's also a way of life. With an eyebrow-raising social media presence that never tiptoes around the risqué or illegal, she's shrugged off the stereotype of a perfect role-model pop star. Though she's grown a reputation that's thrust her into shameless bad girl status, it's difficult to forget the talent that first brought the Barbados wonder girl to international fame. With "Fuckin' Problems" rapper A$AP Rocky opening, this night promises to be a show with a badass street vibe.

Stars

With Said the Whale
Sunday, March 31 at 8 p.m.
Winspear Centre (4 Sir Winston Churchill Square)
$34.50 in advance, $38.50 day of show at ticketmaster.ca

"There's been a lot of love, but that don't amount to nothing," muses Stars lead singer Torquil Campbell in their latest single. While the musings are poetic, these words may seem ironic to anyone who's been paying attention to the band for the past few years. Having produced multiple albums about the evolution of love, the band has solidified their presence as one of Canada's most beloved indie groups, boasting a handful of Juno nods and an enthusiastic age-varied fanbase. Their most recent album, *The North*, is faithful to the tradition of exploring themes in relationships, but with catchy choruses and an infectious vibe, it's resonated with critics and fans alike, proving that maybe all this talk of love amounts to something after all.

s/kin

The TACOS Space (10005 80 Ave.)
Wednesday, March 27 to Sunday, March 31 at 7:30 p.m.
$15 for students at tixonthesquare.ca

Believe it or not, skin — not your kidneys, liver or stomach — is the biggest organ in the human body. While guarding our insides from extreme temperatures, sunlight and chemicals, our skin is also the physical boundary between others. No matter how cosmic an interaction, skin is what keeps our relationships human. The Mindhive Collective from Punctuate! Theatre explores the physical confines of the human experience, bridging our largest organ with a markedly smaller one — the heart.



KATHLEEN ZENITH

Tea is key for student relaxation

FOOD PROFILE

Drinking tea can reduce stress during exam season

Alana Willerton ARTS & CULTURE EDITOR • @ALANAWILLERTON
Jennifer Robinson ARTS & CULTURE STAFF • @JENNROBINSON101

As exam season quickly approaches, many are looking for quick stress relief. Though everyone has their own ways of getting through weeks of studying, an increasingly popular way to help unwind is by drinking a hot mug of tea.

While coffee has often been the go-to beverage for students over the years, Edmonton's tea culture is blossoming due to the beverage's health benefits and delicious, less abrasive taste. The second-most widely consumed beverage in the world, there are many different kinds of tea — including herbal, green, black and white — and all are believed to have different effects. But for those looking to reduce their stress as they prepare for exams, choosing the right kind of tea could be the key to a productive evening of studying.

Cally Slater-Dawson, owner of Cally's Teas, is a strong proponent of reducing caffeine intake to calm down. According to her, one of the more important components of tea is theanine, which works to counteract the effects of caffeine — an aspect that coffee lacks.

"Theanine acts against the action of caffeine — it stops the jitteriness. That's why tea is probably better then coffee in terms of calming people," says Slater-Dawson. "Like coffee, (tea) alerts, it revives, but it also calms."

While the amount of caffeine in tea fluctuates based on when the tea leaves were grown and picked, some kinds are generally known to have more than others. Black teas are often thought of as having the most caffeine, containing about 20 per cent the amount of a cup of coffee, while green teas contain about 5–10 per cent of the caffeine that coffee has.

In addition to the many health benefits of drinking tea, Slater-Dawson believes the act of making tea itself can help reduce stress. Getting up and taking a break from studying, taking the time go through the mindless task of putting on the kettle, getting out a mug and placing a tea bag in it could be just the break your mind and body needs.

And if a complete change of environment is in order, Edmonton has plenty of tea shops to service that need as well. Sarah Proudlock, owner of the Stony Plain Rd. location of Steeps Urban Teahouse, says the store frequently sees an increase in student activity come exam time, and credits the mood-enhancing environment that tea provokes as the reason for the attraction.

"You can always tell when it's exam season because everyone shows up and sits with their pot of tea and their laptops or books," Proudlock says. "I think tea fosters (a relaxing) environment. It's low stress, it's always been associated a little bit more with a slower environment. Not as a quick grab and go, but more of a slow down and sip your tea. We have a lot students that study here all day."

While decaf teas are often used to help relieve stress, some shops have created specific teas to address stress. Steeps has a herbal-infused tea called Stress Reliever, whose ingredients include a citrus blend of lemon grass, St. John birch leaves, mistletoe, bean pods and more. Slater-Dawson also had several recommendations for stress-relieving teas at Cally's Teas, including two types of green tea called Pu-er and Hojicha, Rooibos and white teas in general. Cally's Teas also has a special relaxation tea they make in store, which contains organic Egyptian camomile and organic Alberta catnip, among other ingredients.

But even if your tea isn't necessarily meant to reduce stress, Proudlock believes just having a cup of tea in hand will do the trick.

"I think any tea is a little bit more relaxing because of how the chemicals react with your body. It's also uplifting (and) it reacts in the brain as a mood enhancer, so I think that is de-stressing. I think just drinking something warm and slowing down is an easy way to enjoy."

So next time you're hitting the books, instead of reaching for an energy drink or a cup of coffee, take a little break and make yourself a cup of tea. You'll thank yourself for it later.



KEVIN SCHENK

Saint Joan commemorates heroic deeds of Joan of Arc

THEATRE PREVIEW

Saint Joan

WRITTEN BY George Bernard Shaw
DIRECTED BY Micheline Chevrier
STARRING Patricia Cerra
WHEN Runs Thursday, March 28 – Saturday, April 6 at 7:30 p.m, preview on Wednesday, March 27 at 7:30 p.m., matinée show Thursday, April 4 at 12:30 p.m.
WHERE Timms Centre for the Arts (87 Avenue and 112 Street)
HOW MUCH Starting at $11 at TIX on the Square

Jennifer Robinson
ARTS & CULTURE STAFF ▪ @JENNROBINSON101



ZENGBEN HAO

In this day and age, the world is full of female leaders and heroes. But in the past, that wasn't often the case. That's why the story of Joan of Arc is so important and inspiring — and now, it's also the focus of Studio Theatre's latest production, *Saint Joan*.

Written by playwright George Bernard Shaw, *Saint Joan* is the story of Joan of Arc, a young woman from a small village in France. After hearing voices in her head that she claims are saints sent by God to guide her, Joan goes to the Dauphin of France and convinces him to let her lead the French into battle to take back their land from the English. But despite winning several battles, Joan meets her downfall in the end — as many great heroes do. Often referred to as "a tragedy with no villains," the play showcases themes of heroism, power and classism.

For BFA student Patricia Cerra, who plays Joan of Arc, this role has been a significant change of pace from her involvement in other Studio Theatre plays this year. Having performed comedic roles in Studio Theatre's productions of *The Memorandum* and *The Missionary Position*, Cerra is excited to tackle a more serious and important role in the final BFA production of the year.

"I think I am very privileged to get to play a real historical character, and especially a role model." Cerra says. "I know for me, being young and hearing the story of Joan of Arc, this young woman leading these men — I just think it's quite amazing."

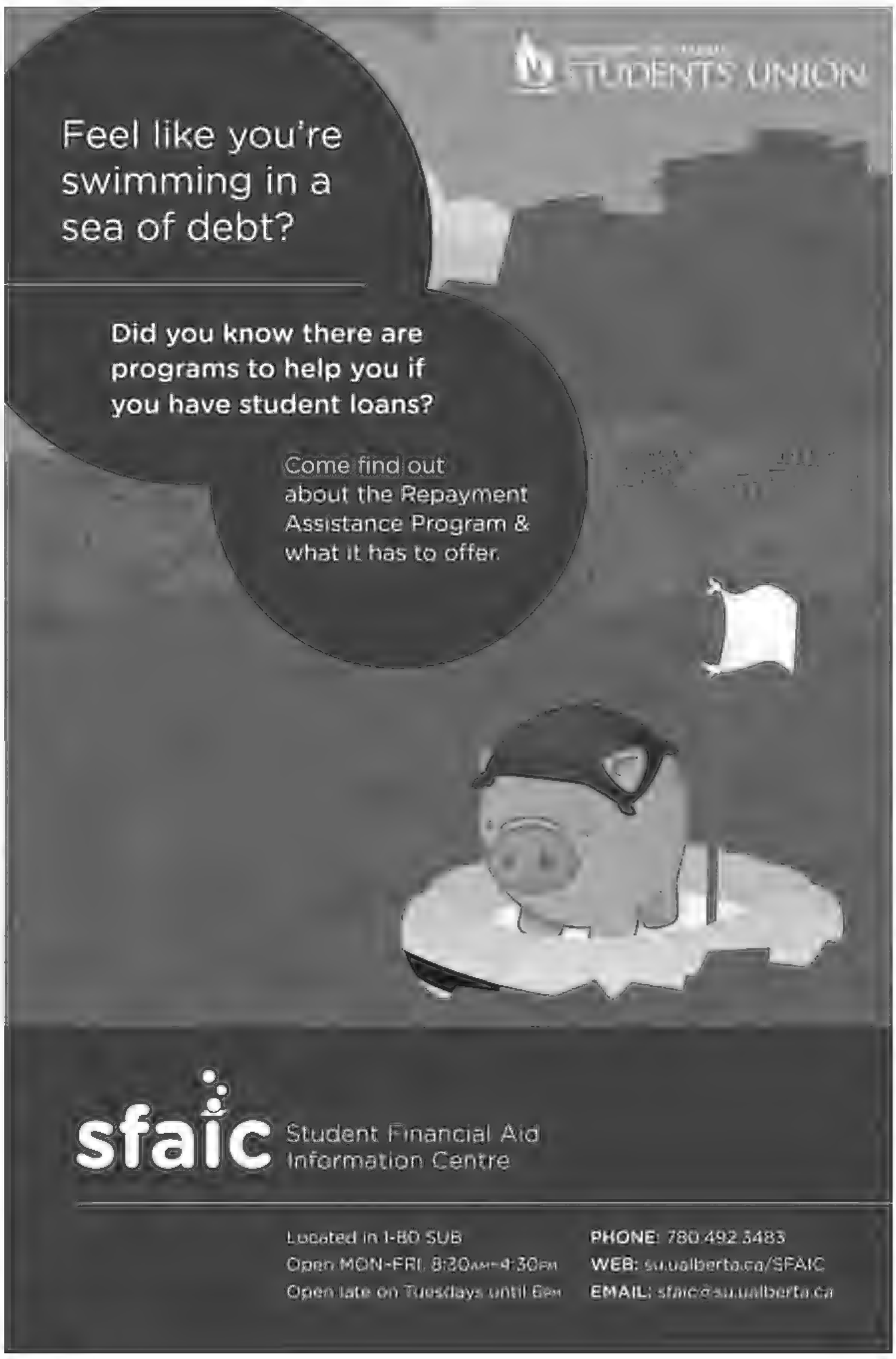
There's no doubt that *Saint Joan* is an inspiring tale, focusing on an exceptional example of female empowerment in a time when the world was ruled by men. A true story from the 1400s, the play allows the audience to place themselves in France during the time of the Hundred Years' War, which Cerra says is part of its appeal.

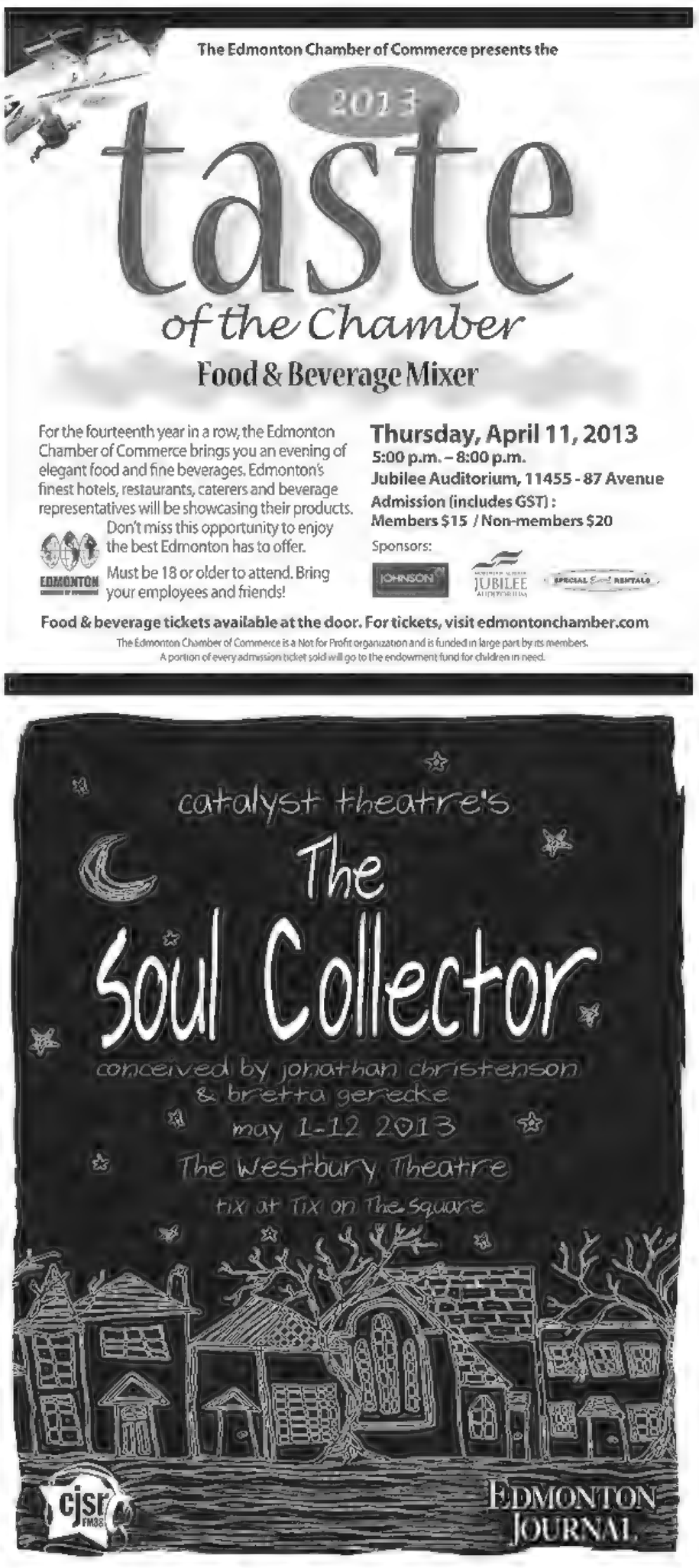
"I think taking a step back in time and seeing true courage and true strength in history, in a woman so young and really being led by belief and heart and what's inside — that is, to me, so captivating," she says. "I think it's the reason why the story has lived for almost 600 years."

Studio Theatre is also lucky to have acclaimed director Micheline Chevrier on board for *Saint Joan*. A well-known and respected presence in the theatre community, Chevrier brings more than 30 years of experience to the show, which fully utilized her talents to bring this important story alive. Cerra complements the stylistic choices Chevrier has made throughout rehearsals to help the cast and crew truly build a world together.

"She's been fantastic; such a wonderful guide, and with tons of experience." Cerra says. "Playing a role as big and as heavy as this role is, you need someone with a lot of experience to sort of help guide you along this path, and it's not an easy one."

The iconic story of Joan of Arc certainly comes with a set of expectations attached to it. As the only tragedy Shaw ever wrote, *Saint Joan* shows the true genius of his writing as he portrays the heroism of Joan and her incredible downfall. One of the most well-known stories of history, it's no surprise that it's still being told today.









SUPPLIED

Rust and Bone reveals gritty realism through unconventional romance

FILM REVIEW

Rust and Bone

WRITTEN BY Jacques Audiard, Thomas Bidegain and Craig Davidson

DIRECTED BY › Jacques Audiard

STARRING › Marion Cotillard, Mathias Schoenaerts and Armand Verdue

WHEN Friday, March 29 at 4 p.m., Saturday, March 30 at 7 p.m., Sunday, March 31 at 4 p.m. and Monday, April 1 at 8:45 p.m.

WHERE › Garneau Theatre (8712 109 St.)

HOW MUCH › $8 student admission

Andrea Ross
ARTS & CULTURE STAFF ▪ @_ROSSANDREA

A great romance delivers the good, the bad and the ugly aspects of love — and the particular focus on the ugly is what makes *Rust and Bone* an emotional treat for lovers of atypical romances. Examining the growth of an unlikely relationship after tragic beginnings, this visually astonishing film emphasizes the difficulties of overcoming trauma.

Based on a series of short stories by Canadian author Craig Davidson, *Rust and Bone* is a modern, brutally honest and realistic interpretation of courtship and romance. In many ways similar to director Julian Schnabel's *The Diving Bell and the Butterfly*, this French/Belgian film demonstrates the effects of physical trauma on relationships in an uncensored way.

Estranged from his wife and with nowhere to go, Ali (Matthias Schoenaerts) and his five-year old son Sam (Armand Verdue) end up living with Ali's sister in a rough apartment in Antibes, France. Ali manages to get a job as a bouncer at a local nightclub, where he first meets the stunning but slightly worse for wear Stephanie (Marion Cotillard).

But before their romance can start, an unexpected accident throws a wrench in the couple's plans. While working as a killer whale trainer at a theme park on the French Riviera, something goes wrong and Stephanie wakes up in a hospital with her legs amputated. Finding herself alone and depressed throughout her recovery, she calls Ali, sparking the beginning of their unlikely relationship — one based on sex and uncertainty.

Though the plot sounds like it could be the beginnings of a Judd Apatow comedy, director Jacques Audiard draws the viewer into his emotional rollercoaster with complex characters and wise casting choices. Cotillard shines in particular, never missing a beat as an emotionally tortured soul struggling to adapt to her disability and newfound relationship.

Schoenaerts also proves to be an excellent choice as Ali, a man who continually fails both as a father and a lover. But despite his character's flaws, Schoenaerts convincingly portrays indifference towards Stephanie's disability, demonstrating a tenderness and patience towards her that doesn't leave her feeling incompetent because of her body.

The film's greatest success is in demonstrating how we often revisit the events and people that hurt us. One of the most stunning scenes is when Stephanie returns to the theme park and touches her hands to the glass of the aquarium as the giant whale that changed her life appears in front of her. This simple but hauntingly intense interaction sets Stephanie on the course for forgiveness and adaptation to a new life.

Unfortunately, the film's ending isn't as satisfying as it deserves to be. As a tragic event forces Ali to consider what matters most in life, *Rust and Bone* resorts to the kind of Hollywood ending that drags up memories of overdone and idealistic romantic finales. The film deserves a raw and honest ending fit for its mood, but instead finishes with all the loose ends predictably tied into a typical happily ever after scenario.

While *Rust and Bone* is undeniably beautiful, it's also painful and uncomfortable at times, reflecting the difficult reality of burgeoning romance in the face of obstacles. Even though Audiard leaves us expecting more from the ending, the phenomenal cast and wholly original spin on romance makes this film worthy of praise.

datapp

WRITTEN BY Alana Willerton





Stylebook

COST › $3.99

PLATFORM iPhone and iPod Touch

Getting dressed has never been easier thanks to the Stylebook app. Created by a fashion industry insider who used to work at *Vogue*, Stylebook is a fantastic way to not only keep your wardrobe organized, but also to help you plan out the most fashionable outfits possible.

After taking pictures of all your separate items of clothing, the app creates a virtual closet and allows you to lay out any combination of your clothing to peruse. So whether you're planning out your outfit for the next day or are struck with inspiration for a new fashion creation while on the bus, you can save yourself some time by creating the look on Stylebook in advance. The app is particularly helpful if you're planning to go travelling soon, as you can create packing lists of whole outfits to make sure you don't accidentally forget something you need.

While Stylebook's price may seem a bit steep at first, you'll be wishing you'd bought it the next time you're running around trying to put an outfit together in time to make it to class.

Dat app is a weekly feature that highlights the best apps out there.

the gateway playlist

WRITTEN BY Chris Gee

Local Edmonton Favourites

Despite having an incessantly small-town mindset, the music community in Edmonton is full of talented artists. Here's a small sample of some of the local musical favourites around town.

1. **"I'm a Believer!" – The Provincial Archive**
 If you have a hankering for some soothing folk-pop melodies, the Provincial Archive is for you. The quartet blends sounds of a soft synthesizer with upright bass, accordion and gentle banjo.
2. **"Barghest" – Tyler Butler**
 Tyler Butler's music is little more than a softly-strummed acoustic guitar and Butler's quiet but powerful voice. His bare-bones approach to folk-country has the ability to touch listeners and stir up emotions they didn't know were there.
3. **"One Foot" – Doug Hoyer**
 Doug Hoyer makes fun pop gems with a variety of instruments including ukulele, bubbly electric guitar, horns and cello. "One Foot" is the first song released from Hoyer's anticipated second full-length album *To Be A River*, which is due this summer.
4. **"Champion City" – Book of Caverns**
 Post-hardcore band Book of Caverns makes music that's heavy on guitars but still has a smart sense of melody. The intricate interplay between side-winding bass, squealing guitars and commanding drums is definitely ear candy.
5. **"Kiwi Island" – Kumon Plaza**
 Dylan Khotin-Foote uses his Kumon Plaza moniker for his highly addictive electronic pop music. This song is off his EP *Cliff*, and starts out with an eight-bit styled pulse before climbing into dance-topia.
6. **"Apathy" – The Joe**
 Joe Gurba is not your average rapper. The Joe's thought-provoking and honest lyrics twist around infectious oddball beats in an unusual flow, and his keen sense of humour shines through to bring a smile to your face with every listen.
7. **"All It Took" – Falklands**
 For a healthy dose of lean punk rock n' roll, look no further than Falklands. Their spicy guitar hooks and swift drum patterns move their head-shaking music along with an incredible sense of urgency.
8. **"Lawn Knives" – Born Gold**
 Formerly known as Gobble Gobble, Cecil Frena's glitchy electronic project is most known for their spontaneous and insanely sweaty dance parties. Past Born Gold live shows have included body paint, giant tarps, board games and leaf blowers.

campus bites

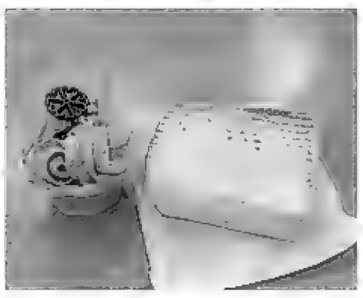
COMPILED BY Jennifer Polack, Chris Gee and Billy-Ray Belcourt



Bar Teca

Every week, *Gateway* writers with iron stomachs will sample food on campus. This week, they tackled Bar Teca in HUB.

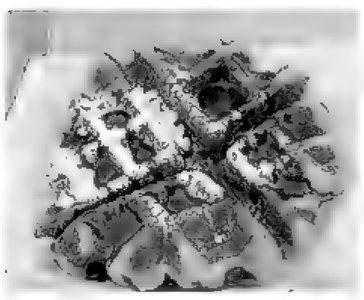
Veggie Grilled Sandwich ($4.95) and Medium Mixed Berry Frozen Yogurt ($4) - Jennifer Polack



Bar Teca has a decent selection of sandwiches, waffles, bubble tea and frozen yogurt, but that's where the positivity ends. Upon receiving my sandwich, I was baffled by the long, dark hair creeping out from the folds of the bread and embedded in the cheese. After summoning the courage to take a bite after plucking the hair out, I was disappointed by the dryness of the bread and the shameful lack of flavour. The frozen yogurt fared better, but it's ridiculously overpriced for how much you get. Not to mention there was another long black hair perched next to the garnish, almost like it was put there deliberately.

Overall, Bar Teca had what seemed like a solid menu, but then it exploded into a dry and somewhat hairy experience that left me both underwhelmed and reasonably disgusted.

Waffle Combo #2 - $5 - Chris Gee



Once I got close enough to see the menu hidden underneath Bar Teca's overhang, the big waffle picture instantly caught my eye. For my meal, I got the Tecatea waffle (green-tea flavoured) with a self-serve coffee. Lightly sprinkled with icing sugar, the waffle was fairly tasty with the pleasant crunch of small pearls of sugar. However, it was also dry and stiff, which made it pretty difficult to eat with a plastic fork. But for the price, it's a nice little treat. Just don't get the chocolate sauce — it's Nesquik.

Small Grilled Cheese Sandwich - $4.95 - Billy-Ray Belcourt



Every grilled cheese enthusiast has invested enough time in the kitchen to know the delicate difference between a great and a good sandwich — sadly, this was neither. Despite Bar Teca's signature grilled sandwich-making reputation, this grilled cheese reminded me of my first sloppy attempt to perfect the craft. There was plenty of cheddar cheese nestled between two thick slices of bread, and in a small corner of the sandwich hid remnants of a cheddar cheese slice. Why must you tease me, Bar Teca? Students on the go may appreciate a quick sandwich, but don't expect to receive anything above mediocrity.

fashion streeters

COMPILED AND PHOTOGRAPHED BY Alana Willerton



GATEWAY: Describe what you're wearing.

QUIN: My sweater is from Scotch & Soda, my t-shirt is from American Apparel and these are Levi's jeans. (They're) dark wash because I don't really like washing my jeans that often. I usually wear a hat because I don't feel like doing my hair in the morning and it looks kind of bad without it. And these are Lacoste shoes.

GATEWAY: Do you prefer summer or winter fashion?

QUIN: Probably summer, because you can wear shorts or jeans. And I don't really like wearing socks — I like to wear boating shoes a lot.



Check out thegatewayonline.ca/fashionstreeters for more photos.

Sports

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Volunteer
Sports meetings Thursdays at 4 p.m. in 3-04 SUB. C'mon by!

Puck Pandas struggle to gain edge in recruiting game



AMIRALI SHARIFI

HOCKEY ROUNDUP

Andrew Jeffrey
SPORTS EDITOR ▪ @ANDREW_JEFFREY

Recruitment isn't the same as it used to be for Pandas hockey head coach Howie Draper.

Five years ago, the Pandas was one of the top university women's hockey teams in the country with more CIS national champion,ships than any other team — a record they still hold. But the three seasons that have passed since the Pandas last won nationals is the longest such period of time in the team's short history, and the competition with opposing schools for new recruits has only grown.

"At one time — just based on the success we had over the initial 10 to 12 years of our program — a lot of players saw this as probably the best option in western Canada," Draper recalled.

"Now the league is a lot tighter. We were unable to pick up a couple of recruits that maybe might have come to us in the past, and, as a result, some of those girls have gone to other teams in Canada West. The league itself is a lot tighter and I think everybody's got strong programs. So as a result, it's a little harder to entice girls to come to us."

The Pandas are no longer the top team in the CanWest conference. This past season, the U of A was still able to make it as far as the conference semi-finals, but fell to their formidable provincial rivals from the University of Calgary. The rise of other western schools like the U of C — while contributing to a stronger and more competitive league — has hampered the Pandas' ability to bring in the best prospects.

Aside from the competition the team faces from other CanWest schools, the Pandas' biggest competition for players actually comes from south of the border — every top prospect in Canada also faces options to travel to America and play NCAA hockey instead. The best players in Canada who have a chance to play for their national team also communicate with around 10 to 15 NCAA schools. Because NCAA regulations allows coaches to contact players as soon as they finish Grade 11, the Pandas have to lock their recruits up sometimes a full year before they join the team.

"It's a gamble no matter if you have them commit from the start of their Grade 12 year up. They can either fall behind or remain the same or they can improve dramatically over the course of that season," Draper explained. "They can also sustain a very serious injury, making it impossible for them to compete on your team the following year. It's always a gamble no matter what."

This trend is also aided by the perception many hold that with the number of Canadian players that travel to play for American schools, NCAA boasts the best players and more competition than CIS. A similar perception is that at a number of American schools, women's hockey is an attraction that draws 1,000 or even 2,000 spectators.

"What it comes down to there is just there's this pattern for the last 15 years of female hockey players — the best in Canada — going down to the NCAA, and I think as a result it's perpetuated itself," Draper said. "For the ones that want to play on the national team, they want to play the best players. Since we've been losing our top recruits to the NCAA, then that's where the higher skill level is, generally speaking. So girls that want to play the best hockey will ultimately go down to the states.

"They look at the big scholarship dollars that they'll get going there and even though they'll roughly spend the same amount of money when all costs are considered, if a university says, 'We're going to give you a $20,000 a year scholarship for four years to come down here,' and then we're saying we can pay for the best players maybe tuition and fees which might amount to about $30,000 over the course of four to five years, it just looks a lot more attractive going down to the states."

What Draper tries to sell players on to entice them to come to the U of A is the prestige of the school, variety of degrees offered and strength of an athletics program that he believes will be on the "cutting edge" of sports research, if it isn't already. Players will also be joining a young team Draper is excited to see develop over the next few seasons.

"I'm just excited to see what one more year with this group does for our program," Draper said.

"I felt there were tremendous gains over the course of this year, but I certainly felt all of our first and second-year players took a major step forward."

With the addition of new recruits to this young, developing team this season, it may not be long before the winningest CIS women's hockey team once again reaches national championship glory.

Baker put on back burner to finish Bears basketball season early

Back injury to star Bears basketball player ends season early and cripples team's hopes for repeat national championship appearance

BASKETBALL PROFILE

Andrew Jeffrey
SPORTS EDITOR ▪ @ANDREW_JEFFREY

The 2012–13 Golden Bears basketball season came to a disappointing end in more ways than one for star guard Jordan Baker.

Coming off a CIS silver medal at the 2012 national championships, the U of A was poised to make a return to the tournament this season, but instead suffered an early exit after a first round loss to UBC, due in part to the hole left in the lineup by Baker's absence.

"You always want to be out there with the guys competing. So to see them play the way they did and struggle a little bit was a little tough." Baker said. "I just tried to stay positive and provide coaching advice and leadership to the guys, but it's never the same when you're out of the lineup."

During the Bears' Jan. 12 game against Fraser Valley, Baker took a bad fall that ended up being the last straw in a culmination of back problems throughout the season. Stress fractures and a bulging disc in this back kept Baker out of action for the rest of the 2013 season including the playoffs, leaving the Bears without one of their top scorers.

> **"I think if we were given the time to prepare, practice together and play together and everyone was healthy (this season), I think we could have been in the national finals against Carleton."**
>
> JORDAN BAKER
> FOURTH YEAR BEARS GUARD

The stress fractures occurred after the excessive pounding of taking shots and jumping throughout games and practices this season. Baker is now starting to regain some of the strength and flexibility he lost with the injury and hopes to be back to close to 100 per cent by the end of April, but it's been a slow process getting back to full health.

"The doctors told me right off the bat that not everybody recovers at the same rate." Baker said. "For me, it's kind of been a long process because I've never really been injured with this sort of severity. It's been a long process and pretty painful to see the guys lose out and have to miss all that time, but the doctors and physiotherapists have been with me every step of the way."

Baker's injury capped off a season where the Bears seemed to be stricken with bad luck all year, consistently having at least one player out of the lineup.

While Baker saw some Bears players come to training camp underconditioned, there doesn't seem to be an explanation as to why the team experienced so many injury problems this year.

"I think it's just bad luck. It's not like we were all suffering from ankle injuries or all suffering from groin injuries — there were problems from shoulders to backs to ankles," Baker said.

"We should have done more in terms of preventative measures in the offseason, and I think guys are going to work hard to come back in October and be ready to go physically.

The injury problems came at an unfortunate time for the team as they were already transitioning in a new head coach with Barnaby Craddock joining the team from the Unviersity of the Fraser Valley this past offseason.

(Craddock) didn't do a whole lot different from (former head coach Greg) Francis in terms of on-court stuff — it's just the season's long and we had a couple of guys that maybe didn't come into training camp as in shape as they should have been." Baker said.

"With (Craddock) getting the job so late, he was scrambling to stay organized and get the recruits in on time. It was a bad situation that started the year and it kind of just tumbleweeded from there."

For now, Baker is working hard to get back to 100 per cent and avoid surgery. He has the chance to continue playing with the Canadian national team in a tournament in Russia this summer if his back is healthy, but his main focus is to come back in his fifth and final year with the Golden Bears to try to bring them back to the national championships.

"I want to be here helping the guys, contributing to a national title. When I had a back injury, I was stripped of that opportunity this year, so I want to make my fifth year my best year yet," Baker said.

"I think if we were given the time to prepare, practice together and play together and everyone was healthy (this season), I think we could have been in the national finals against Carleton. And when you get in that kind of situation, anything can happen. This year, we had a real good team, we just couldn't put it all together and produce on the floor at the same time."

Mucha rebounds after mediocre sophomore season

HOCKEY PROFILE

Andrew Jeffrey
SPORTS EDITOR ▪ @ANDREW_JEFFREY

For the second straight year, a Golden Bear has been named the CIS men's hockey goaltender of the year. But this time, the honour is going to a different man in the crease.

Third-year U of A netminder Kurtis Mucha took home the award a year after teammate Real Cyr did the same as a fourth-year in 2012. While Mucha had a strong rookie year and a stellar season in 2012–13, Cyr's award came when he took over the starting job during a disappointingly underwhelming season for Cyr.

"(This season) was a good bounce-back year after my second year wasn't very good. So I came back here in shape, more focused and committed to winning," Mucha said. "I think me coming back more focused and tracking the puck a lot better kind of put a little bit of swagger in my game that helped me out.

"I think I got too comfortable after my first year. I just came back and thought it was going to be a little easier than it would be, and it wasn't and I got off to a bad start ... Real took the ball and ran with it. Not to take anything away from him — he had a great year last year and he definitely deserved it."

Mucha, who hails from nearby Sherwood Park, AB, impressed this season with a 13–2 record, 1.30 goals against average and .936 save percentage, splitting starts throughout the season with Cyr. More impressively, Mucha helped the Bears set a number of historic milestones. He and Cyr helped the team finish the season with a record three consecutive shutouts and a CanWest record for fewest goals in a season with 45. Mucha himself also became the first CanWest goalie to ever be credited with a goal.

"That shows a complete team effort. We broke that record of allowing 45 goals this year and you can't pin that on one goalie or one (defenceman) or a forward," Mucha said. "That's all 20 guys every night chipping in and making it happen. That's what I'm most proud of, having that overall team effort the whole season and playing really well."

A big help for Mucha was the backup he recieved from last year's CIS goalie of the year. Cyr finished with a 9–3 record and himself had impressive stats with a 2.02 goals against average and .909 save percentage. The two split playing time all season, collectively earning the team the lowest goals against average in the CanWest. But by playoffs, Mucha was on a historic roll, earning him the sole starting position with a personal shutout streak of 335 minutes and six seconds of playing time.

"(Cyr and I) had a great relationship. We help each other and support each other no matter who's in the net. So if he needed me to do something for him or if I needed him to do something for me, we'd do it." Mucha said. "When I was on the bench, I'd watch a game and pick up tendencies of the other team and he'd do the same.

"At the end of the day, we're competing for ice time, but when the other guy's in the net, we still want to win just as bad as if we were in the crease. So we just try to help each other out."

While the award was an honour for Mucha, the fact remains that with the Bears' early exit from nationals, his season didn't end the way he intended, leaving him hungry to achieve more when he returns next season. With the chance to be the Bears' sole starting goalie throughout the regular season next year, Mucha has the chance to finish with even better numbers and help the team reach heights they couldn't quite achieve this season.

"The Bears were never happy when we won Canada West," Mucha said. "Most teams will celebrate and take a team picture, we just had our captains take the trophy and walk right back to our room ... We want to win nationals, so I've got to make that my goal next year to make sure I get back and get it done next year."

player spotlight — Kurtis Mucha



SUPPLIED

Goaltender
Eligibility Year: 3
6'1", 184 lbs.
06/3/1989
Sherwood Park, AB

- WHL's all-time minutes played leader with more than 13, 000 minutes played
- Attended Phoenix Coyotes prospect camp in 2008 before attending Oilers prospect camp in 2009
- First CanWest goalie to be credited with a goal in Bears 7-1 win against Lethbridge in October
- Broke CIS record with five consecutive shutouts totalling 335:06 from February to March, which was also longer than any active NHL streak

Season	Team	League	GP	MIN	GA	SO	GAA	W	L	T/OTL	SVS	PCT
2010/11	U of A Golden Bears	CIS	18	1053	43	3	2.45	13	3	1	438	.911
2011/12	U of A Golden Bears	CIS	11	666	32	0	2.88	7	3	1	246	.885
2012/13	U of A Golden Bears	CIS	17	1012	22	3	1.30	14	1	1	324	.936

gym bag

COMPILED BY Atta Almasi

If you're one of the many Canadians trying to catch March Madness on your phone, tablet, or computer, chances are that you're going to have to bypass TSN's coverage rights first if you want to see your bracket played out in live action.

According to the Bell Media-owned channel's contract with the NCAA, they alone can provide Final Four coverage for Canucks this spring. But this monopoly of the most exciting three weeks in sports wasn't always present. Two years ago when CBS — the original rights-holders for NCAA Men's Division I Basketball tournament coverage — teamed up with fellow American broadcasters from TruTv, TNT and TBS to produce unprecedented live and on-demand coverage of the March Madness tournament, Canadians and Americans were offered free access to the American channels' new initiative.

Now, when Canadians attempt to access the March Madness Live app on their computers or phones, they are greeted with a message saying they're not within the geographic boundaries to receive CBS's coverage of the event. What further irritates basketball fans is the fact that, unlike their sister station ESPN, TSN fails to offer online coverage of the tournament besides the First Four games that they stream on TSN.ca. It's not only the US men's tournament that TSN aims to block from Canadians. When TSN held the rights to the CIS Men's Final Eight basketball coverage two years ago, they reversed the previous rights-holders, The Score's, decision to simultaneously stream their coverage on the CIS's free online website, and declined to offer the semi-final and championship game online.

As the precedent and pressure for sports networks to take full advantage of the multimedia options at their disposal grows, the fact that TSN refuses to adapt is disappointing. The fact that Canadians have to either mask their IP addresses or stream off of alternative shady sports websites should send a loud and clear message to executives at the head of TSN: adapt or you will die.



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gateway multimedia
MULTIMEDIA MEETINGS AT 3 P.M. ON WEDNESDAYS IN 3-04 SUB


THE HERO WINS IN THE END
BUT HE DIES IN THE MIDDLE
We experience life as a story, because life is a story and that story goes something like this . . .
BETRAYAL- We were created for a relationship with God. But our hearts turned proud, and pride corrupted. We abandoned God and intimacy turned to alienation. Humanity is now fallen. None of us lives or loves as we ought.
ANTICIPATION- Though we betrayed God, He did not abandon us. Through the prophets God promised to send a Savior (the Messiah) who would restore and rescue us from the consequences of our sin and betrayal.
PURSUIT- As promised, God sent the one who would rescue and restore us. His name was Jesus. The unique Son of God became one of us. He spoke truth, modeled love, granted forgiveness, and offered life in all of its fullness.
SACRIFICE- Life's greatest mystery was revealed in love's greatest act. Jesus, the author of life, died for us: taking upon himself our guilt and atoning for our sin. How can we be sure? God raised Jesus from the dead. He is alive today and offers life to all who would receive it.
THE GIFT- Now God invites us to come back to him through trusting in Jesus. Forgiveness is a free and undeserved gift, received only through genuine faith in Jesus Christ.
My Father's will is that everyone who looks to the son and believes in him shall have eternal life, and I will raise him up at the last day (John 6:40).
This is the story—our story—from rebellion to reunion: our journey back to intimacy with God.
A TURNING POINT? All good stories have turning points and this could be the turning point of your story. If you desire to turn to God and receive Christ, you can express that right now to God, silently, in prayer.
If you'd like to find out more, just go to EveryStudent.com where millions of students have gone to explore faith.
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Former Bear jumps out of the frying pan, into the hall of fame

ALUMNI PROFILE

Andrea Ross
SPORTS STAFF ▪ @_ROSSANDREA



SUPPLIED

Following a successful professional football career that began with the U of A's Golden Bears, receiver Brian Fryer is the newest athlete to be inducted into the Canadian Football Hall of Fame.

Fryer's 10-year football career saw him play for the Washington Redskins and Edmonton Eskimos, with whom he won five straight Grey Cups from 1978 to 1982. Since his retirement in 1985, he has held the position of Executive Director of Football Alberta. His spot in the Canadian Football Hall of Fame follows his past inductions into the Alberta High School, City of Edmonton, Province of Alberta and University of Alberta Sports Halls of Fame.

Though Fryer has accomplished what many football players can only dream of, he remains humbled and honoured by his most recent recognition.

"It never crossed my mind. Just to be in the same category as some of the greats," Fryer said. "I had my ups and downs in regards to my CFL career, getting injured and whatnot, but I still have some decent records and did quite well at the U of A when I played for the Bears."

To say he did quite well at the U of A is an understatement. As a dominant wide receiver for the Golden Bears from 1972–1975, Fryer amassed a lengthy list of accomplishments. As a starting receiver for only the last two of his four years with the Bears, Fryer's impressive 20 receiving touchdowns tied him for second all-time with Mike Kirkpatrick of Halifax's Saint Mary's University. He is the first Canadian university player to have amassed more than 1,000 receiving yards, and almost 40 years since his last Bears game, Fryer still holds a multitude of Golden Bears records, including most receiving yards (2,655), touchdowns (34), TD catches (20) and most points in a career (98).

His success on the field earned him the 1975 Hec Creighton Trophy for most outstanding CIS football player, and in the same year he received the University of Alberta Wilson Challenge Trophy as the most outstanding male athlete. However, Fryer's successful start with the Bears almost never happened. Tempted to accept a scholarship to Colorado State University, Fryer ended up missing the entrance exam and decided to remain in Edmonton — a decision he doesn't regret.

"I was quite happy I enrolled at the U of A with the Bears. I really didn't start as a receiver until my third year, but we had some great talent on the team," Fryer said.

Following his success with the Bears, Fryer was drafted in 1976 by the Washington Redskins in the eighth round, 234th overall, making him the first CIS player to be drafted by an NFL team — something he considers a highlight of his career. After four games with the Redskins, he suffered a season-ending knee injury, but signed with the Eskimos in 1978 after a year's rehab with Washington. And aside from time spent recuperating from injuries, Fryer considers himself pretty lucky when looking back on his career.

"There are a lot of great memories. I wish I didn't get hurt, because now I've got a new hip and my knee's out and all that stuff that comes with playing sports," he said."I'm very fortunate. I think the average player plays in the CFL for maybe four years, and I had 10 years of pro, so that was a good time."

sports shorts

COMPILED BY Andrew Jeffrey

Silver finish for curling teams at nationals

The CIS national championships of curling wrapped up over the weekend with the U of A's Golden Bears and Pandas teams ending the tournament on identical footing.

As the tournament wrapped up, the U of A finished with silver medals for both teams. The Pandas started the tournament as one of the youngest teams, with three first-year players, but came away with their first CIS medal in program history. The team met the University of Manitoba Bisons in the championship match — a team they had defeated for the CIS western university gold medal earlier this season — but this time, the Bisons took revenge with an 8–7 victory. The Pandas were up 7–6 in the 10th end of the game, but Manitoba stole two points and took the win.

Meanwhile, the Bears played a familiar foe in the University of Waterloo Warriors, the team they defeated for last year's national curling championship. But just like Manitoba, Waterloo took revenge for their earlier loss with a 7–5 win. Much of the Bears' national championship winning lineup returned to the tournament this year, but it wasn't enough to defeat Waterloo, who always seemed to be one step ahead of the Bears, never allowing the U of A to take the lead in their match.

Earlier in the week, a number of Bears and Pandas curlers were named CIS All-Canadians for the excellence they showed throughout the tournament. Rookies Kelsey Rocque and Keely Brown, along with fifth-year Erica Ortt, were named CIS First Team All-Canadians on the women's side of the tournament, while the Bears' third-year skip Brendan Bottcher, Brad Thiessen and Mick Lizmore were named men's second team All-Canadians.



KEVIN SCHENK

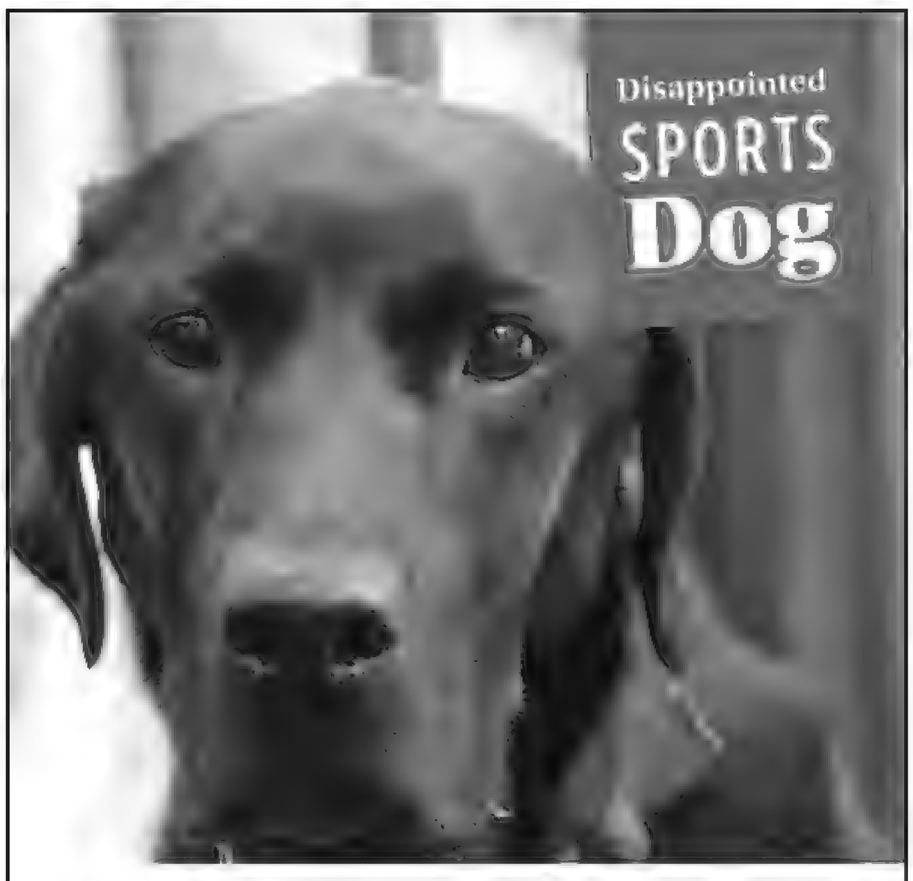
Senior Puck Bear graduates to ECHL

After a five-year CIS career playing hockey with the U of A Golden Bears, team captain Greg Gardner signed with the Colorado Eagles of the East Coast Hockey League.

Gardner scored 72 points through 133 games in CIS, winning a silver medal at the national championships in 2010.

Before coming to the U of A, Gardner played five seasons with the Prince George Cougars, scoring 119 points throughout five seasons. Gardner joins a Colorado team that is sixth in the western conference out of nine and has clinched a playoff spot for this season.

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Sports' foulest fairweather fans



Sports Staff
GROUP COMMENTARY

For die-hard fans of any sport, there may not be anything more infuriating than a fairweather fanbase full of bandwagon jumpers. Those fans who never rooted for their new favourite team when that squad was in the bottom-feeding doldrums of their league, but suddenly bought all the official merchandise as soon as a star player was signed and led the team to more wins.

They're represented by the people you see in your class wearing a Yankees cap, whose favourite teams include the Blackhawks and the Heat. But which franchise's fanbase is the most despicably fair weathered?

Cameron Lewis

When it comes to bandwagon riders, nobody draws them better than the National Football League's New England Patriots.

With five Super Bowl appearances over the last decade, including three championship victories, the Patriots seem to draw fairweather fans like porch lights attract moths. Though many will tell you it was Adam Vinatieri's last-second, game-clinching field goal in Super Bowl XXXVI that made them true believers, Pats converts are unique among sports fans in that they continue to be rewarded with playoff appearances and championships despite their very short-term loyalty to the team.

As a divisional rival Buffalo Bills fan, this especially sucks, since it's the bandwagon-riding Pats fans who get to celebrate year after year after year, while loyal Bills fans like myself have to suffer, knowing that the Bills are the NFL's only franchise to not make the playoffs in the 21st century.

But two Super Bowl slayings of the Patriots by a fellow New York state-based football club in the New York Giants — including crushing New England's attempt at a perfect season back in '07 — is consolation enough for this Bills fan.

Atta Almasi

After years of failed rebuilds and consistent mediocrity, the Chicago Blackhawks have become the powerhouse of the NHL, putting together an amazing 24-game undefeated (in regulation) streak to begin the 2013 mini-season.

This is a great time for Chicago Blackhawks fans. They enjoyed their team's first Stanley Cup victory in almost 50 years back in 2010, and they're now watching what could be the rise of the next NHL dynasty. But who can rightfully consider themselves a true Blackhawks fan? Not many, considering they have probably the heaviest bandwagon in the NHL today.

According to the NHL, Chicago has one of the best fanbases in the NHL. They fill up the Madhouse on Madison every game and create arguably the best atmosphere in the league, but this certainly hasn't been the case in the past.

Between 2000 and 2007, Chicago ranked towards the bottom in the NHL in average attendance. Coincidentally, these were the years the Blackhawks also finished at the bottom of the league in the standings. Where were all the fans then?

This is the same story with two other teams who apparently also have amazing fans: the Pittsburgh Penguins and the Washington Capitals. The Pens and Caps rose up from the basement of the NHL after drafting generation talents Alex Ovechkin and Sidney Crosby in 2004 and 2005 respectively. The fans pack their stadiums now, but where were they before these guys were drafted?

For some reason, I have a hard time believing a person wearing a Patrick Kane jersey is a loyal Blackhawks fan who toughed out the team's dark days over the past decade. They may sell out their home games now, but this fanbase is far from being the best or most loyal in the NHL. They're largely just fairweather fans who have jumped at the opportunity to cheer for a winning team.

Nicola Flynn

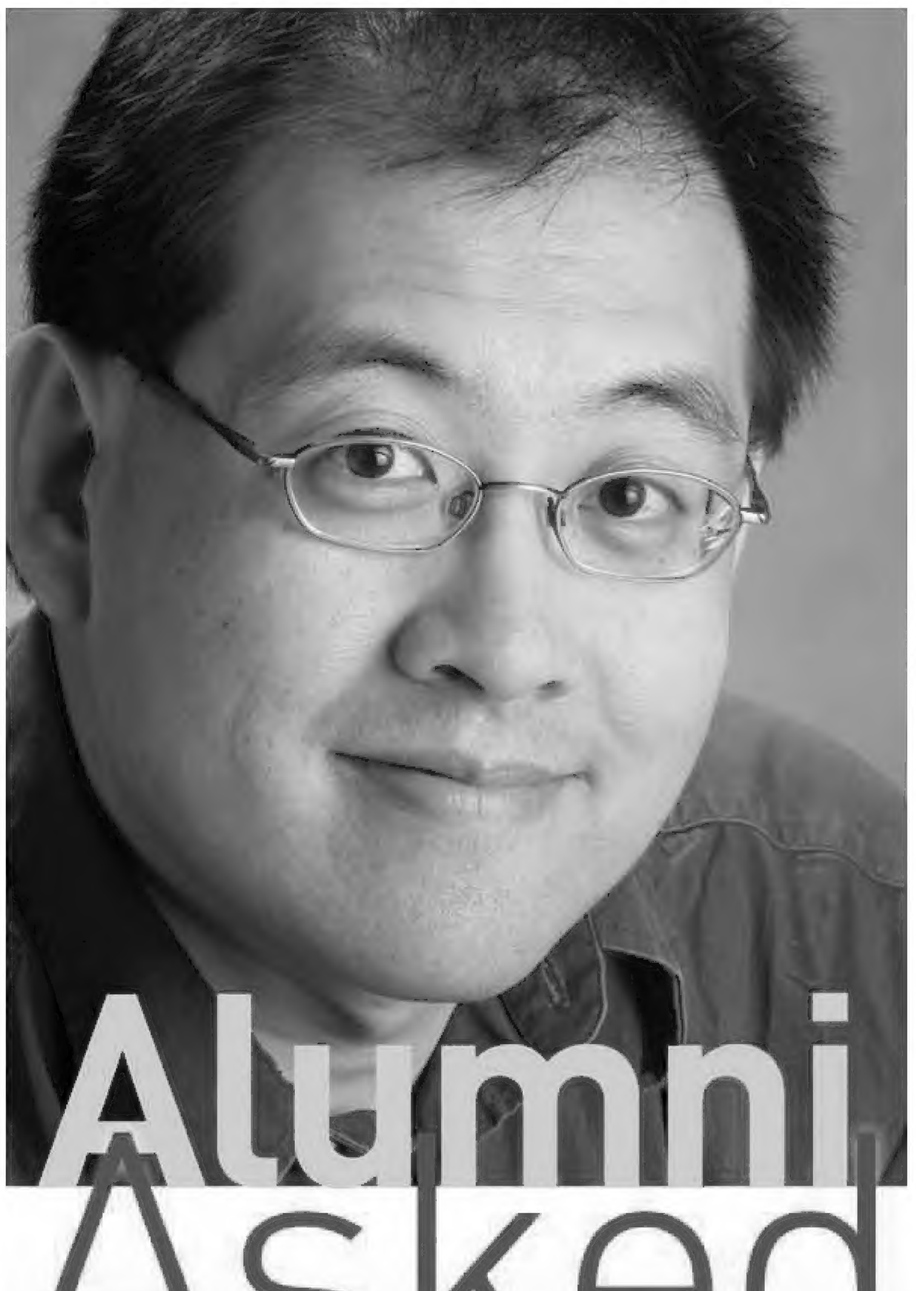
The Edmonton Oilers have by far the worst bandwagon fans. I can say this honestly because I am one.

I will tell people that I hate hockey, but I always — okay, usually — watch the Oilers when they make the playoffs. Just the other day I attempted to watch a regular season game and fell asleep about seven minutes in. I woke up just to see the Oilers win in third period, 6–5, with three minutes left. And it was the best regular season hockey game I've ever watched.

It's easy to get away with being a bandwagon fan for the Oilers because the hardcore fans always know what's going on. I even find that sometimes it's better have followed the games, because these fans love to hear themselves tell you about every play. I wonder if it's just me, but if I haven't watched a single game all year, it's likely due to the simple fact that I'm not actually interested. Playoff games are only on my radar so I have some clue as to what every post and tweet on the Oilers is about.

One of the best things about social media is it helps me be a better bandwagon jumper. With all the advertisements about game time, it's hard to use the excuse "I forgot." And my single most favourite thing is that people post their thoughts about every play of the game. Wait, did I say favourite? I actually meant it's the most annoying part of social media. Again, if I wanted to know what was happening, I would turn on my TV.

Really, it's a team's hardcore fans' own fault that there are bandwagon fans in the first place. If I wasn't so sick of Oilers fans and their annoying posts, then I might be able to stomach more than the few playoff games the Oilers compete in, once every five years when they actually make them.



Alumni Asked & ANSWERED

WITH

Marty Chan
BA '89

What's the one piece of advice you'd give a current U of A student? The people in your classes may be your future colleagues or business contacts. Learn to network with those people now, and make sure you collect blackmail evidence to be used later.

Biggest life lesson learned on campus? Do not assume you can skip half of your math classes and then cram for the final exam in four nights.

Favourite course/teacher? Maurice Legris taught expository writing. He scared the hell out of me, because he was honest about my writing, but I became a better writer as a result.

What did you do to help you stay sane during exam time? When I lived in Kelsey, we would blow off steam by playing hallway hockey between cram sessions.

What should all new grads know? Grads are the MacGyvers of the world. You won't know when or where, but at some point all the knowledge you've gained at the U of A will come into play.

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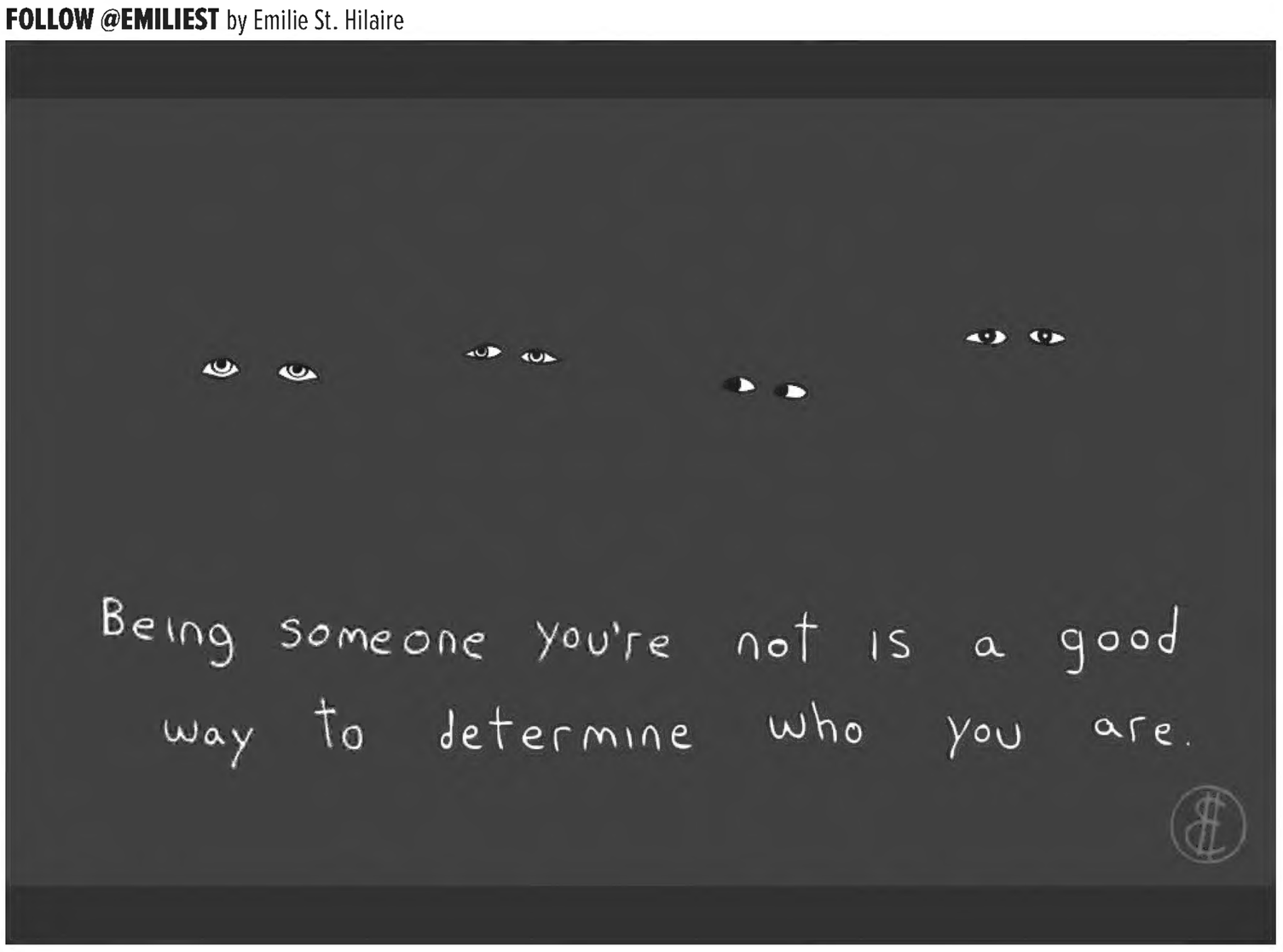
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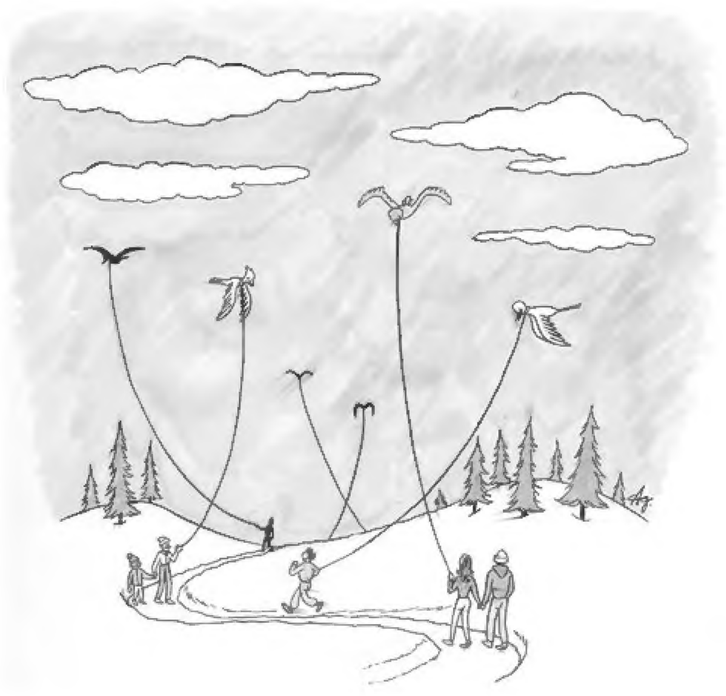
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ask Dr. Donna

WRITTEN BY **Dr. Donna Cave**



Dear Dr. Donna: I found a box of frozen condoms in my 16-year-old son's car. Given that the box hasn't been opened, I think it's just wishful thinking on his part, but can he still rely on them if he needs them?

Dear Dinner Guest: This question came from a dinner party we hosted on Saturday night. When there are two docs in the house, dinner conversation can be a bit interesting, particularly when a few choice bottles of wine have been consumed. The docs didn't know the answer and lively conversation ensued. One guest thought that if we keep food in the freezer to keep fresh, why not a condom? The vet at the table confirmed that animals can get STIs but had little else to offer, as protection is not on the bull's mind when he is turned out into the field in the winter. The mechanical engineering student had some materials information about the brittleness of frozen substances, but couldn't help assess the risk once thawed, although the knowledge that rubber expands in the cold might be helpful when deciding what size of condom to buy. Someone else pointed out that the condom might be particularly good protection if frozen, as it would likely cause significant deflation of the whole affair once in contact with erect flesh. Two of the guests just kept laughing, likely picturing the high school condom demonstration with frozen bananas, and the three-year-old just kept mashing up the rest of his dessert with his dinosaur, oblivious to the topic causing laughter around the table.

Given that we live in a province where March can see temperatures of -24 C, it was a good question, as it turns out to be a common practice to stash a few condoms in the glove box. The average temperatures found in tropical countries do not pose a problem, but there is no data on what happens at the average temperature in an Edmonton winter. Most condom manufacturers state that extremes of temperatures should be avoided, as there is concern for deterioration of the latex. It seems prudent, therefore, to replace the condoms, as it will be cheaper than paying child support, and to keep them indoors until needed.

***Dear Dr. Donna:** I am a 26-year-old virgin and I've never had a pelvic exam before. I know that I don't need a pap smear until after I become sexually active. But what about the other parts of the pelvic exam? Should I be having regular internal exams?*

Dear Check-Up: When I was young, in the land before time, life was different. The only texts we read weighed 10 pounds each (no kilograms back then), sending mail required a pen and about a week, and if we used a cell phone, there was a pretty good chance we were in jail. We walked 10 miles (no kilometres back then) uphill both ways to school, in a blizzard, barefoot, and we sure as heck made sure we got a complete physical exam every year. We now know that the routine physical, for the majority of younger adults, is about as useful and relevant as a floppy disk. Unless there are risk-taking or lifestyle-concerning behaviours, or a family history that would cause worry, there is no need to do a physical exam on *any* part of your body routinely.

*Health and Wellness questions? E-mail me at **askdrdonna@gateway.ualberta.ca** or click the link to Ask Dr Donna at **thegatewayonline.ca!***

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	9				6			4
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		8			2			7
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